

# Clues on Massive Galaxy Formation at $z \sim 2.5$ from Near-Infrared Spectroscopy

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Urry, Greg Rudnick, Ned Taylor & the MUSYC collaboration

University of California, Berkeley  
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# Galaxies in the local universe

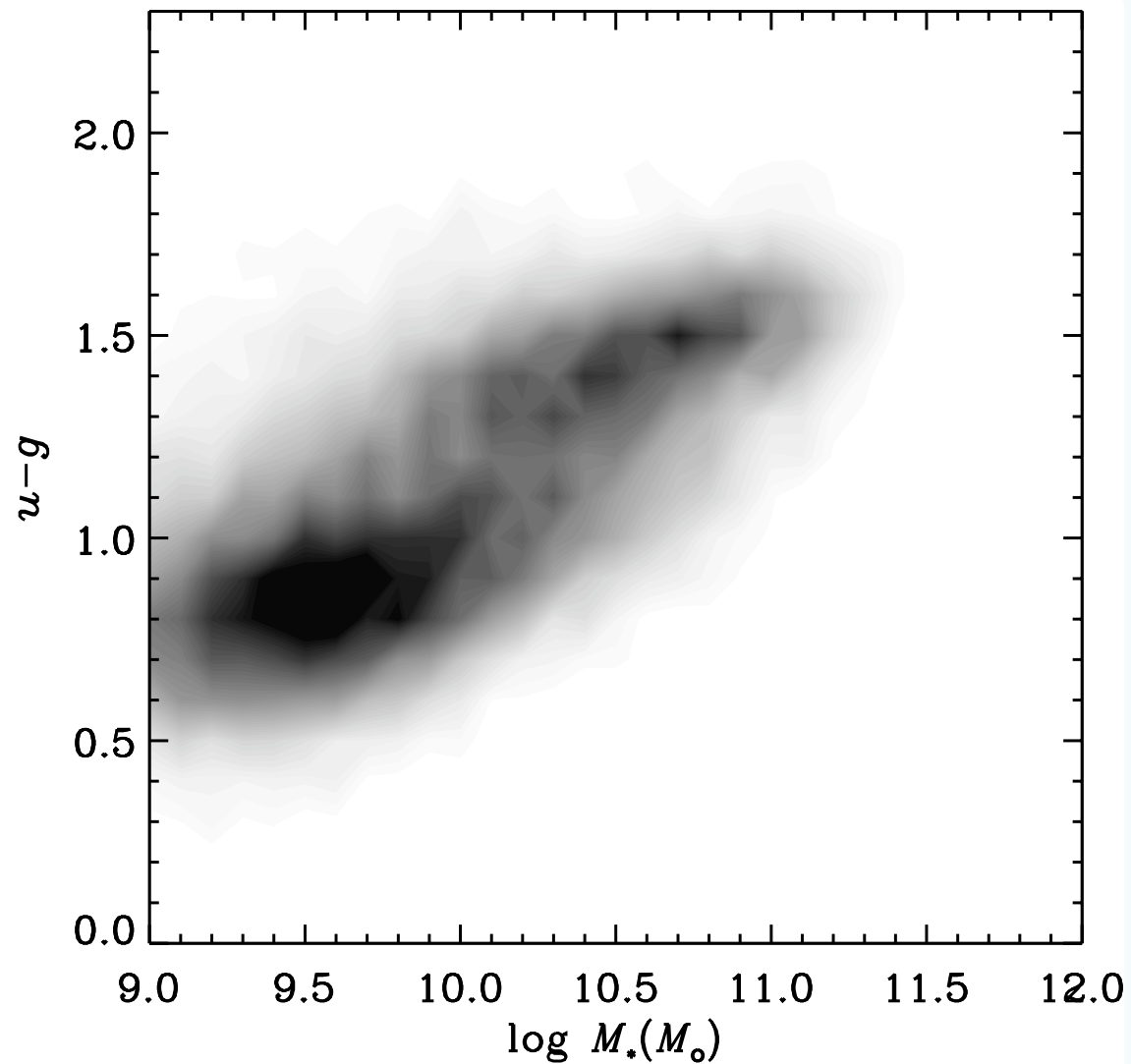


**Blue star-forming  
disk galaxies**



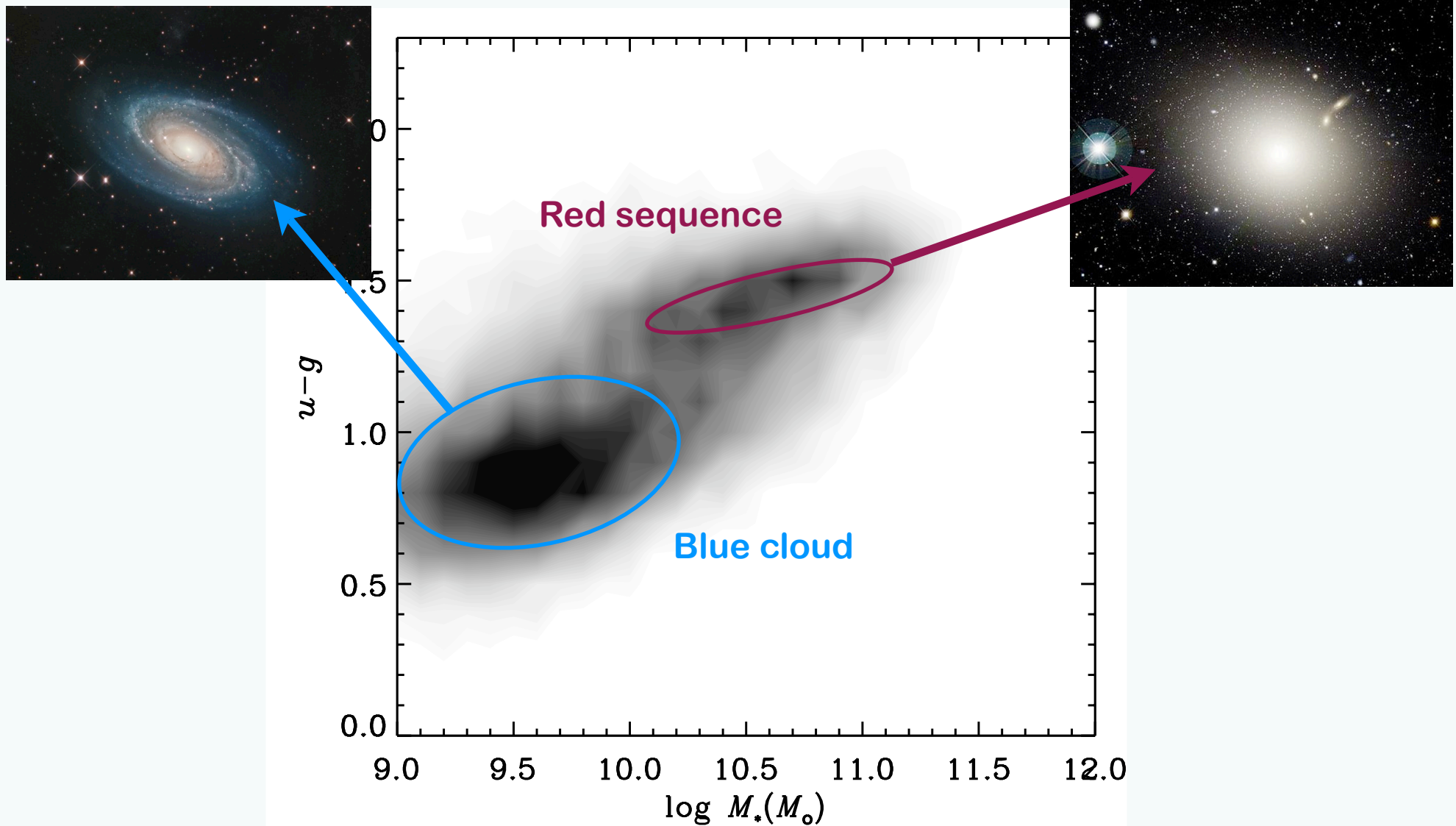
**“red and dead” early  
type galaxies**

# Galaxies in the local universe



NYU value added catalogue (Blanton et al. 2005)

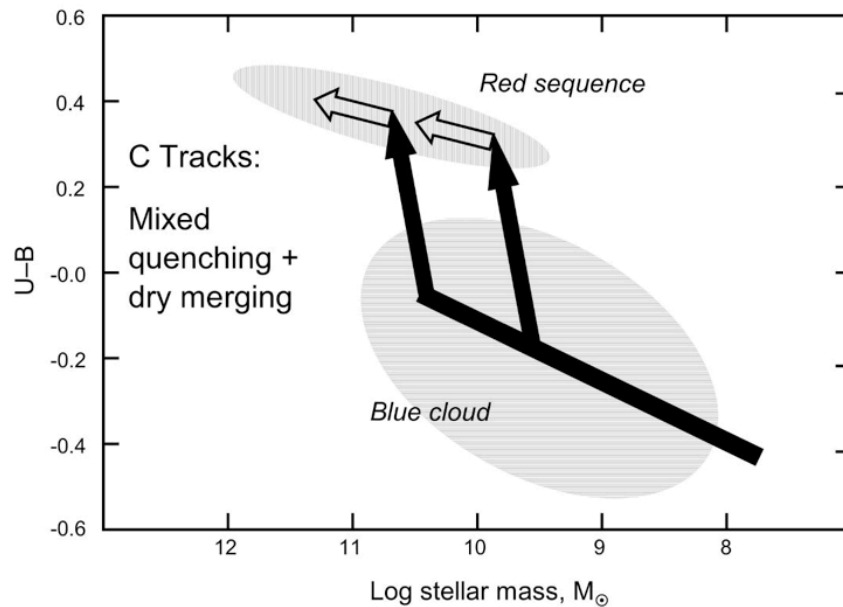
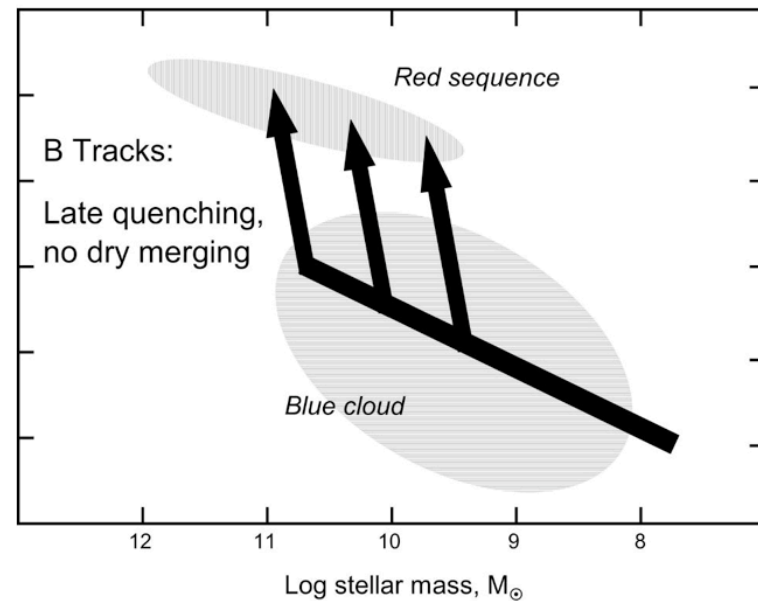
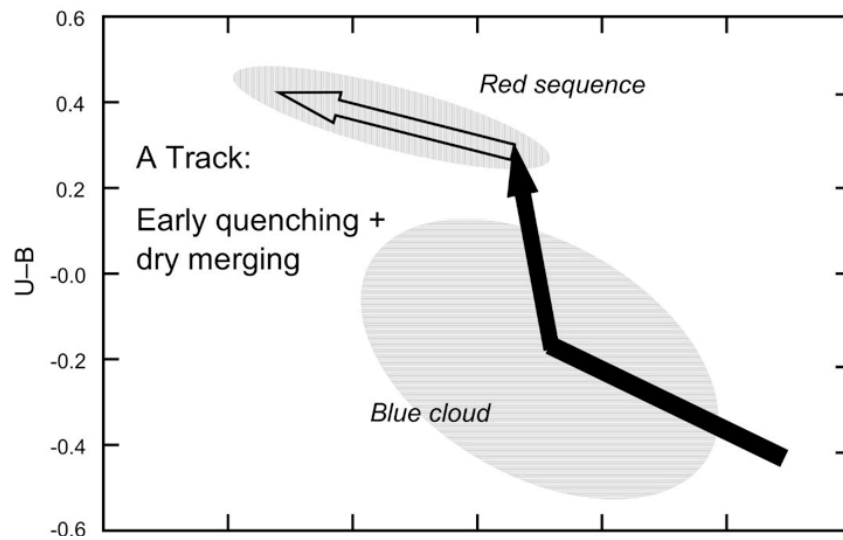
# Galaxies in the local universe



NYU value added catalogue (Blanton et al. 2005)



# Build-up of the red sequence



# Motivation



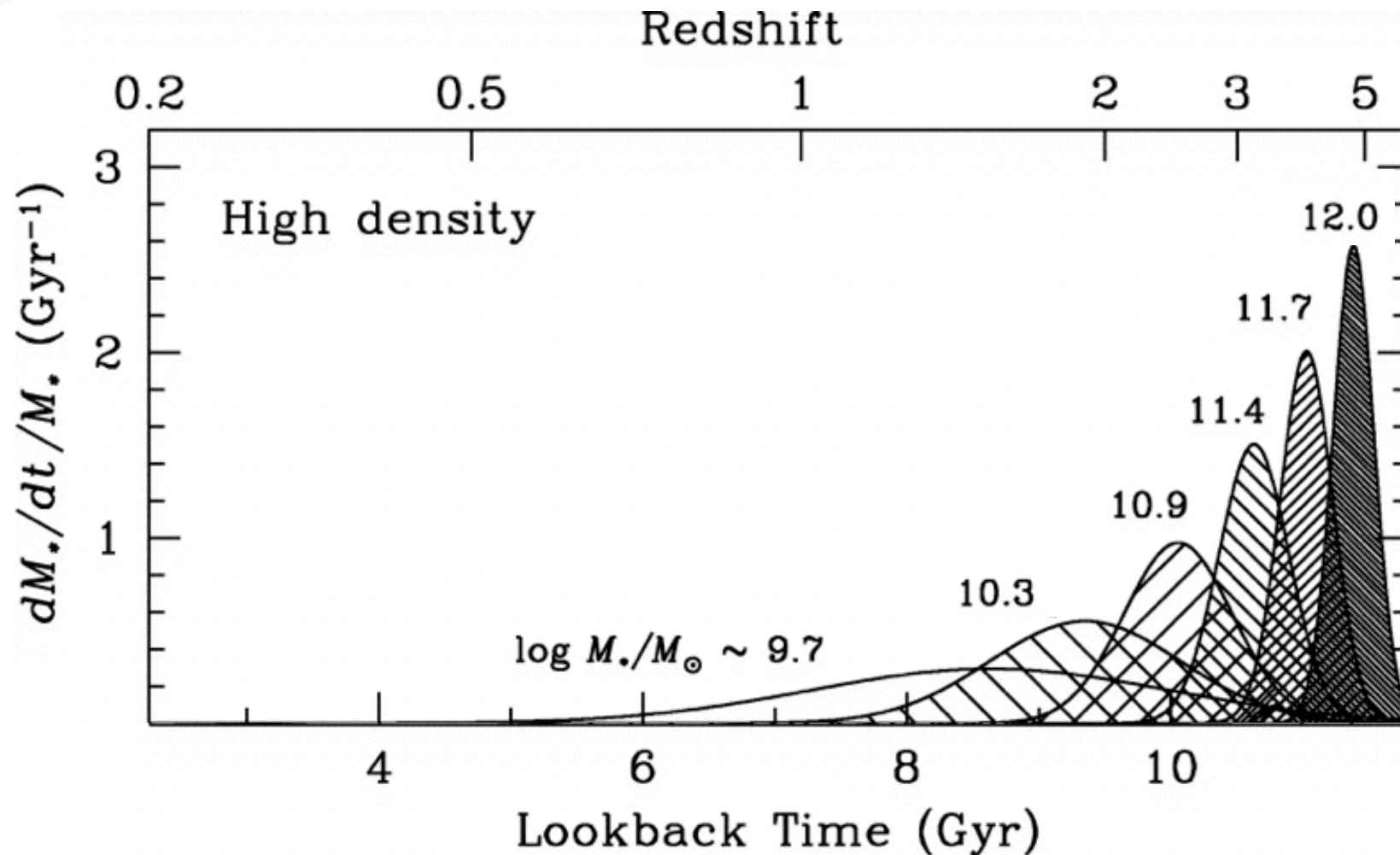
- When was the star formation in massive galaxies quenched?
- What mechanism is responsible for the migration of blue star forming galaxies to the red sequence?

# Motivation



- **When was the star formation in massive galaxies quenched?**
- What mechanism is responsible for migration of blue star forming galaxies to the red sequence?

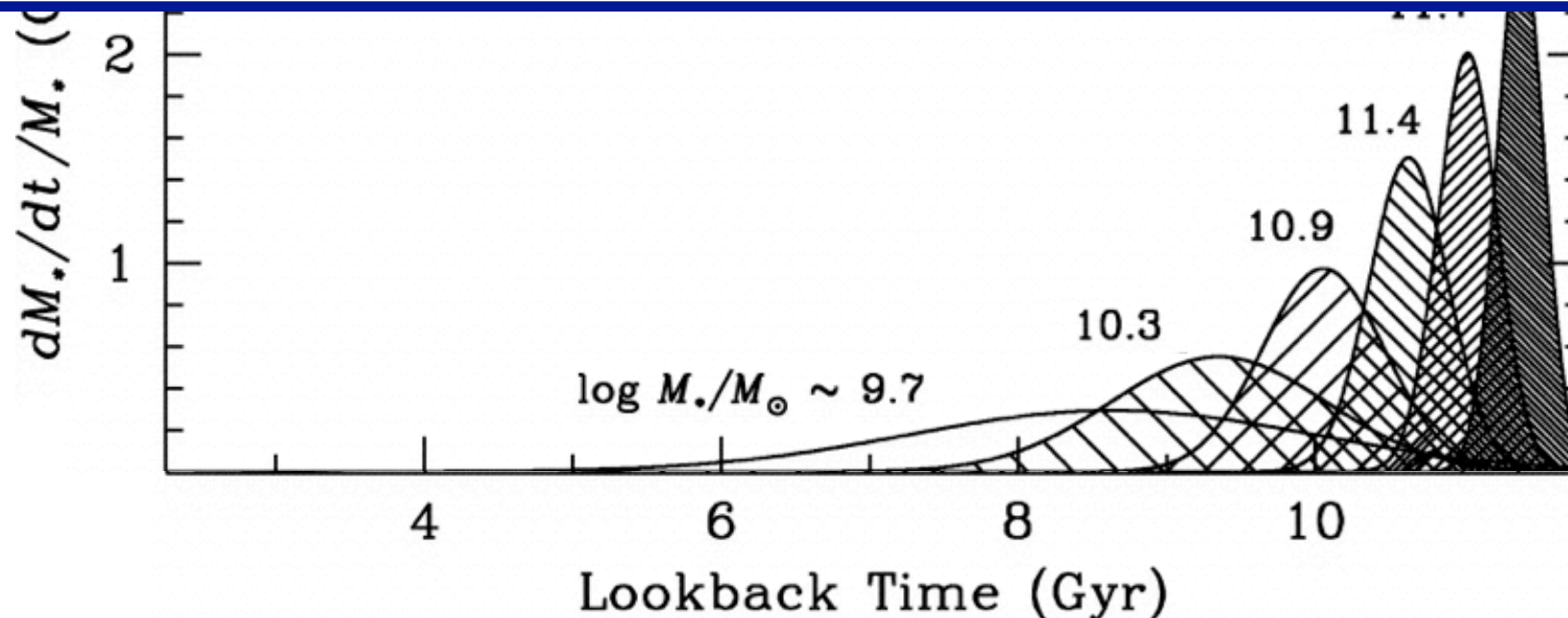
# Star formation history of galaxies



# Star formation history of galaxies

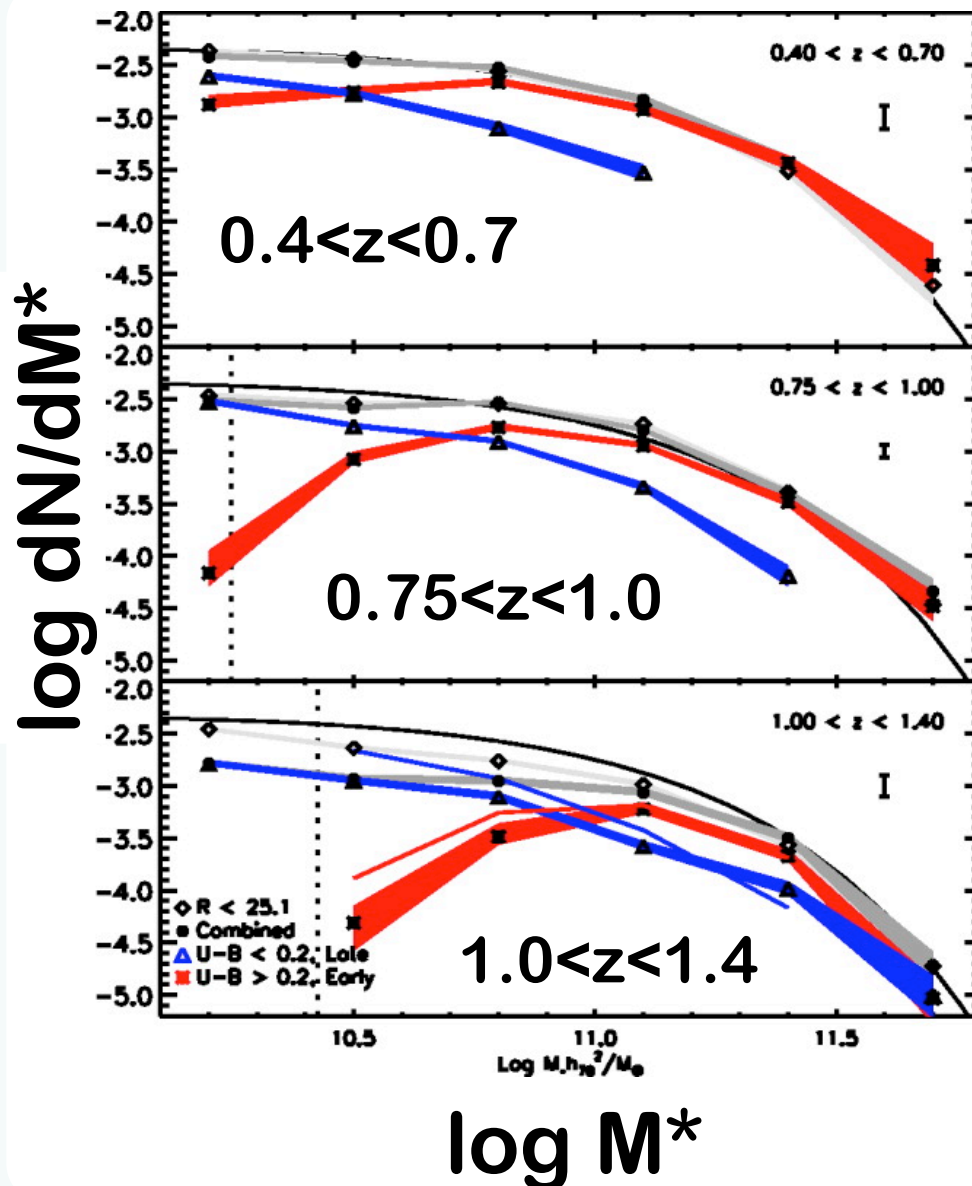
## Problems:

1. Model assumptions
2. What were the stellar masses of these galaxies at the time the stars were formed?



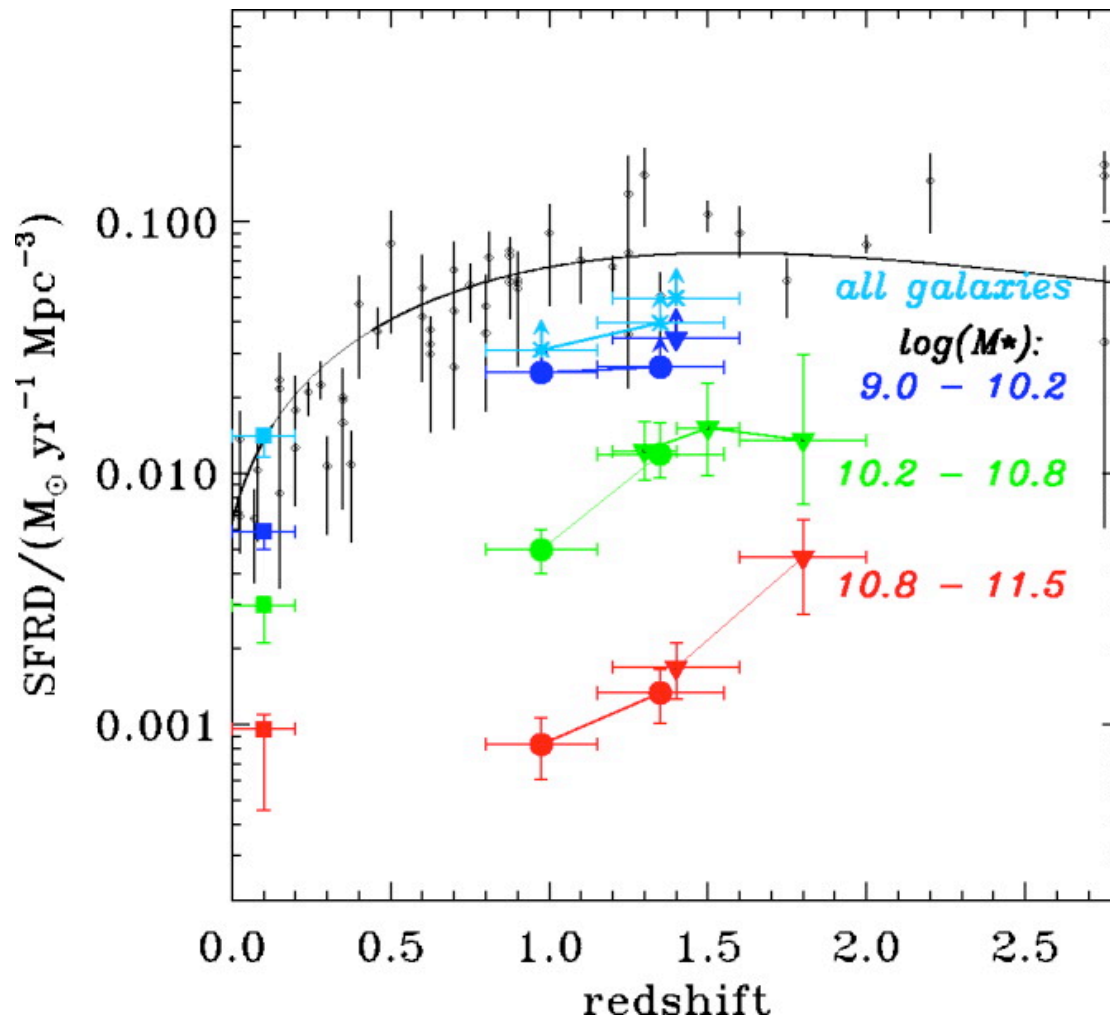


# Direct information at high redshift



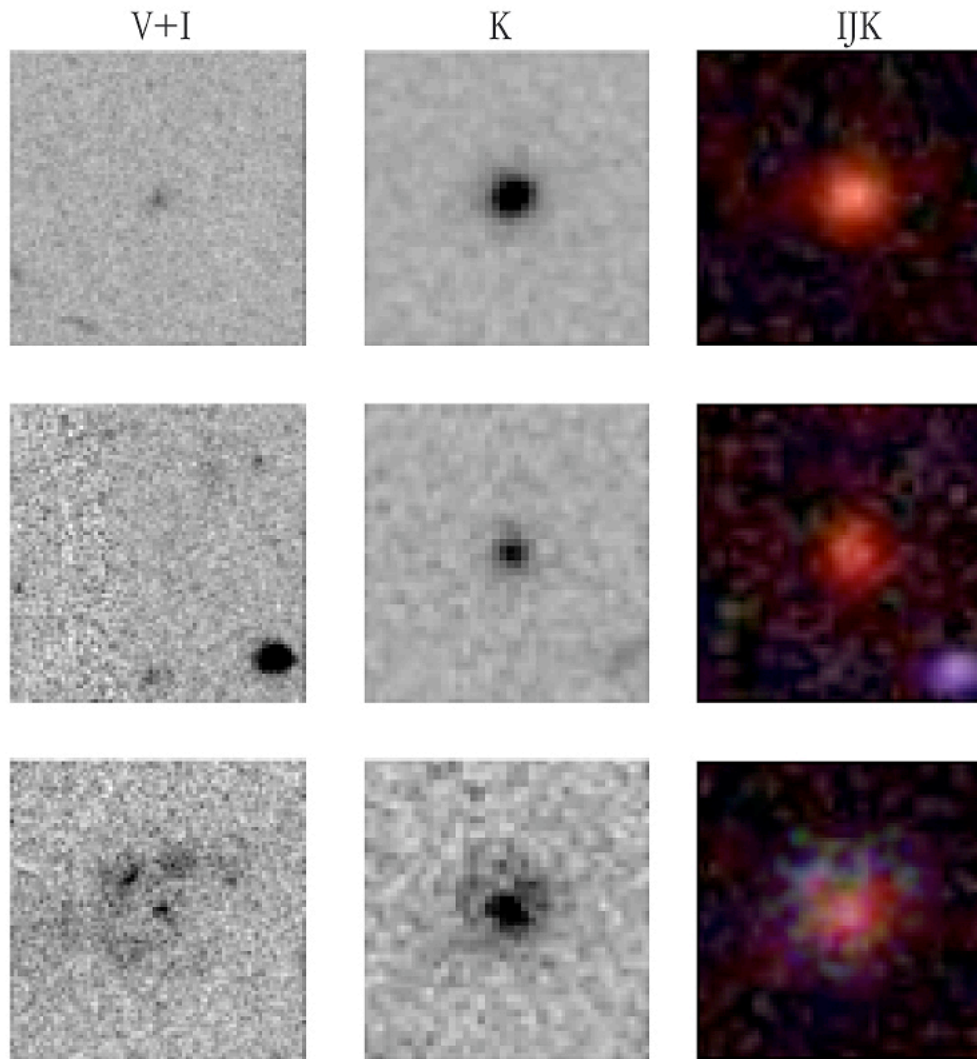
More massive galaxies form their stars at higher redshift

# Direct information at high redshift



More massive galaxies form their stars at higher redshift

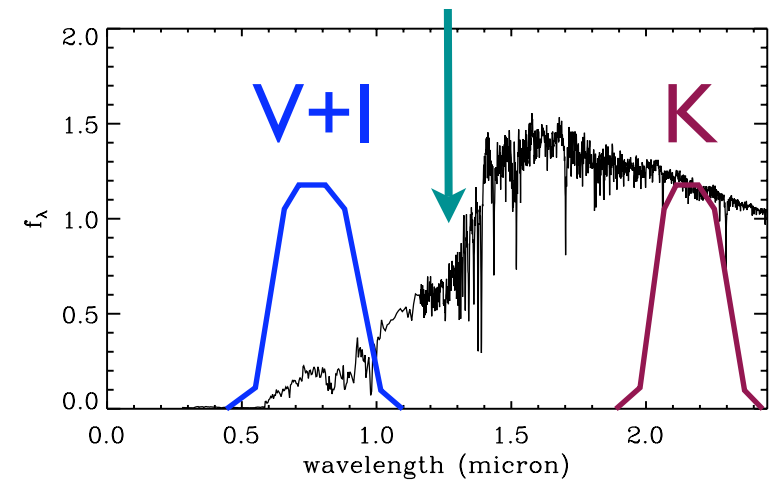
# Do evolved galaxies exist at even higher redshift?



Zeer rode compacte sterrenstelsels in HDF-S

© FIRES 2002

## Balmer + 4000 Angstrom Break



Labbe et al. 2003

# Motivation



- **When was the star formation in massive galaxies quenched?**
  - ▶ **Beyond  $z > 2$ ?** (e.g., Labbe et al. 2005, Reddy et al. 2005/2006, Daddi et al. 2005)

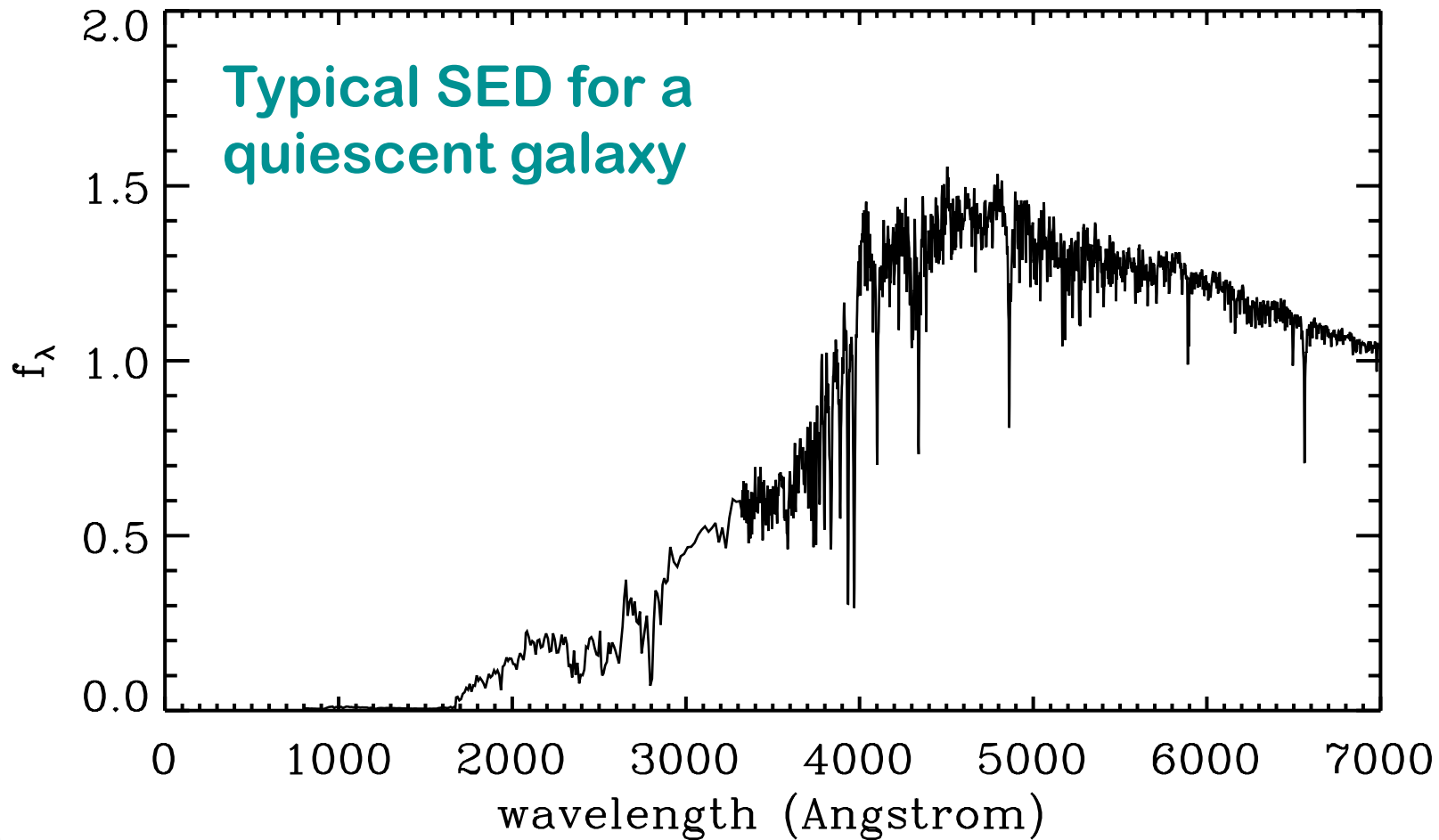
# Motivation



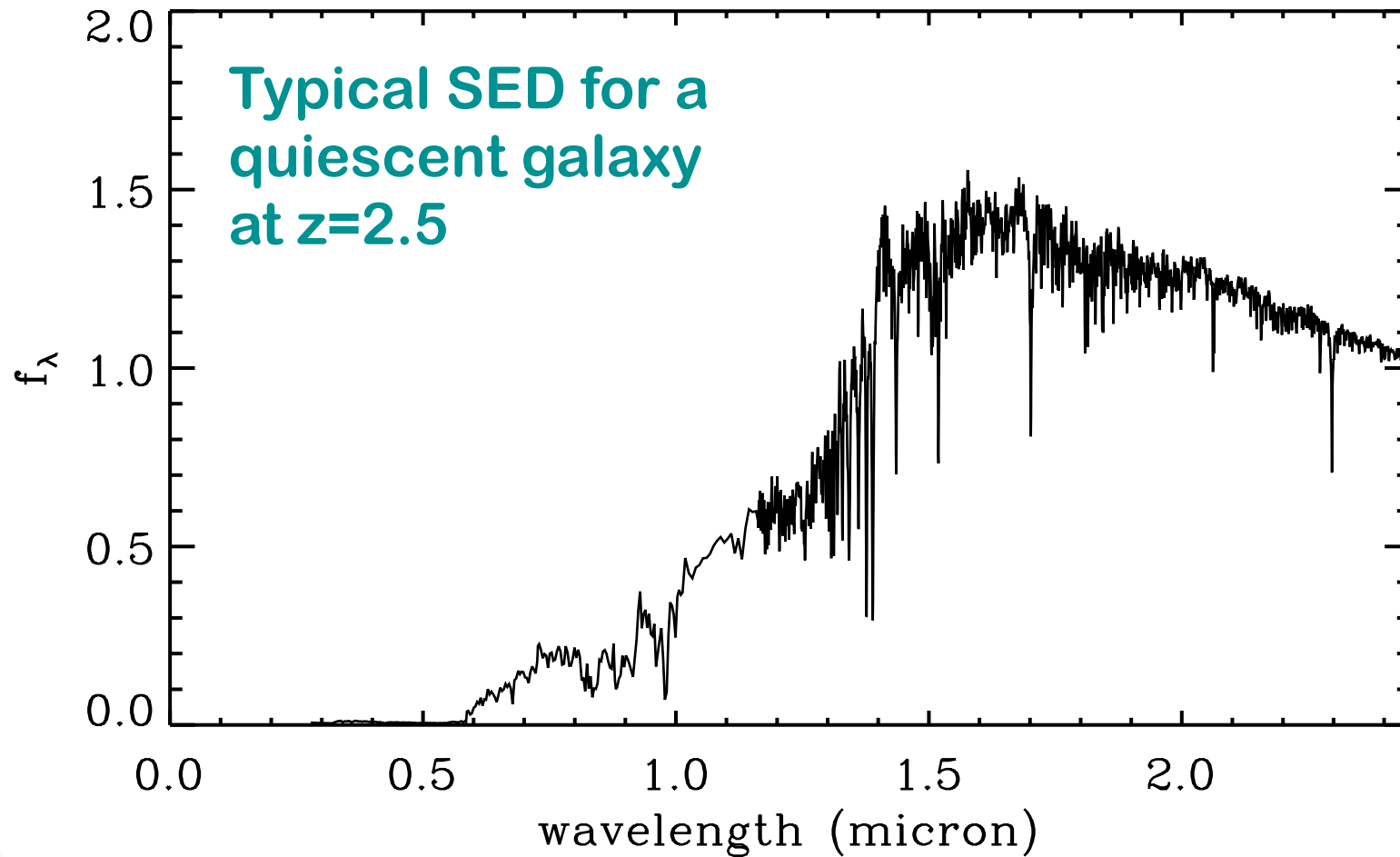
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  - ▶ **Beyond  $z > 2$ ?** (e.g., Labbe et al. 2005, Reddy et al. 2005/2006, Daddi et al. 2005)
  - ▶ **Problems:**
    - Most studies rely on photometric redshifts



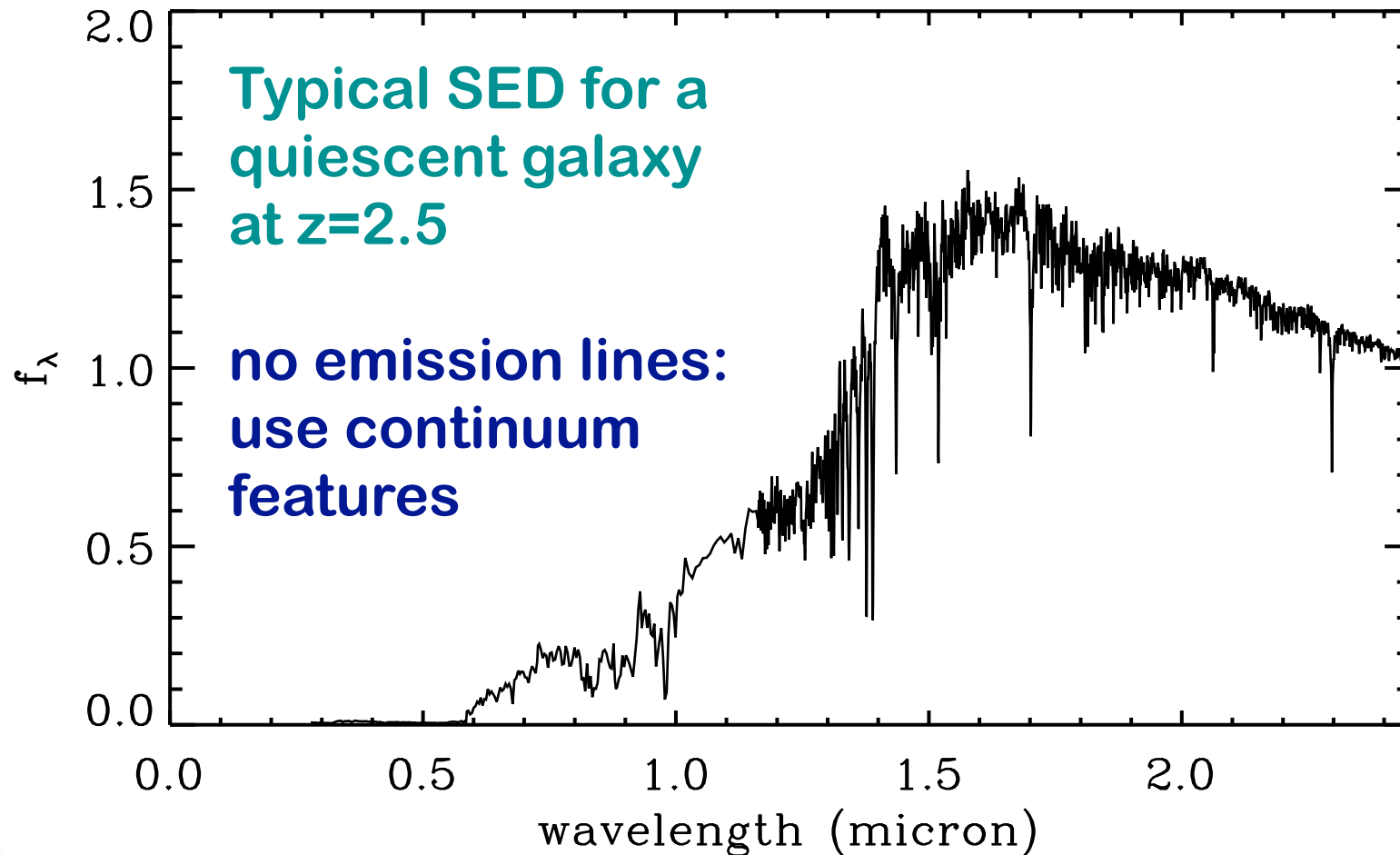
# Why is it so difficult to obtain redshifts for $z > 2$ quiescent galaxies?



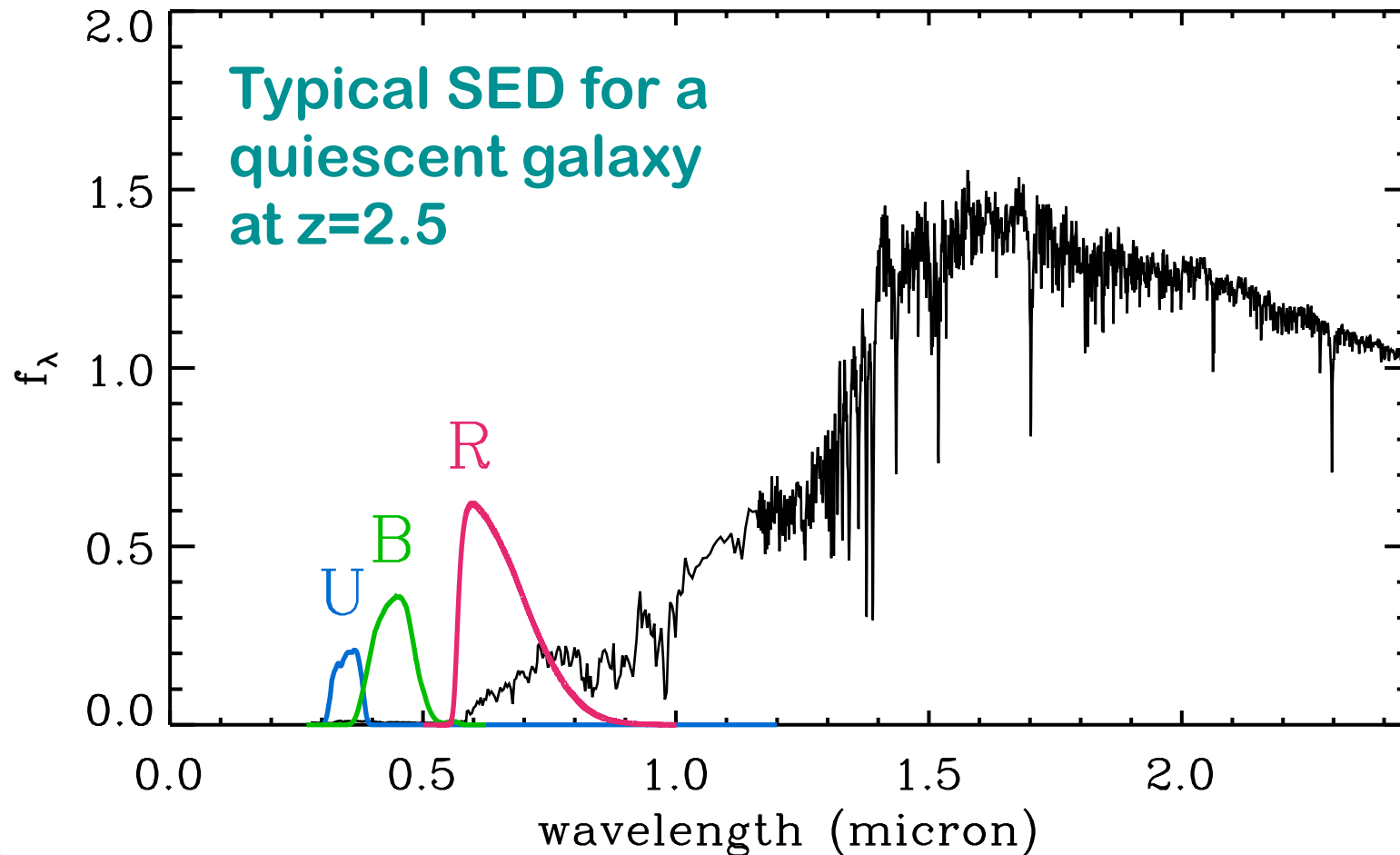
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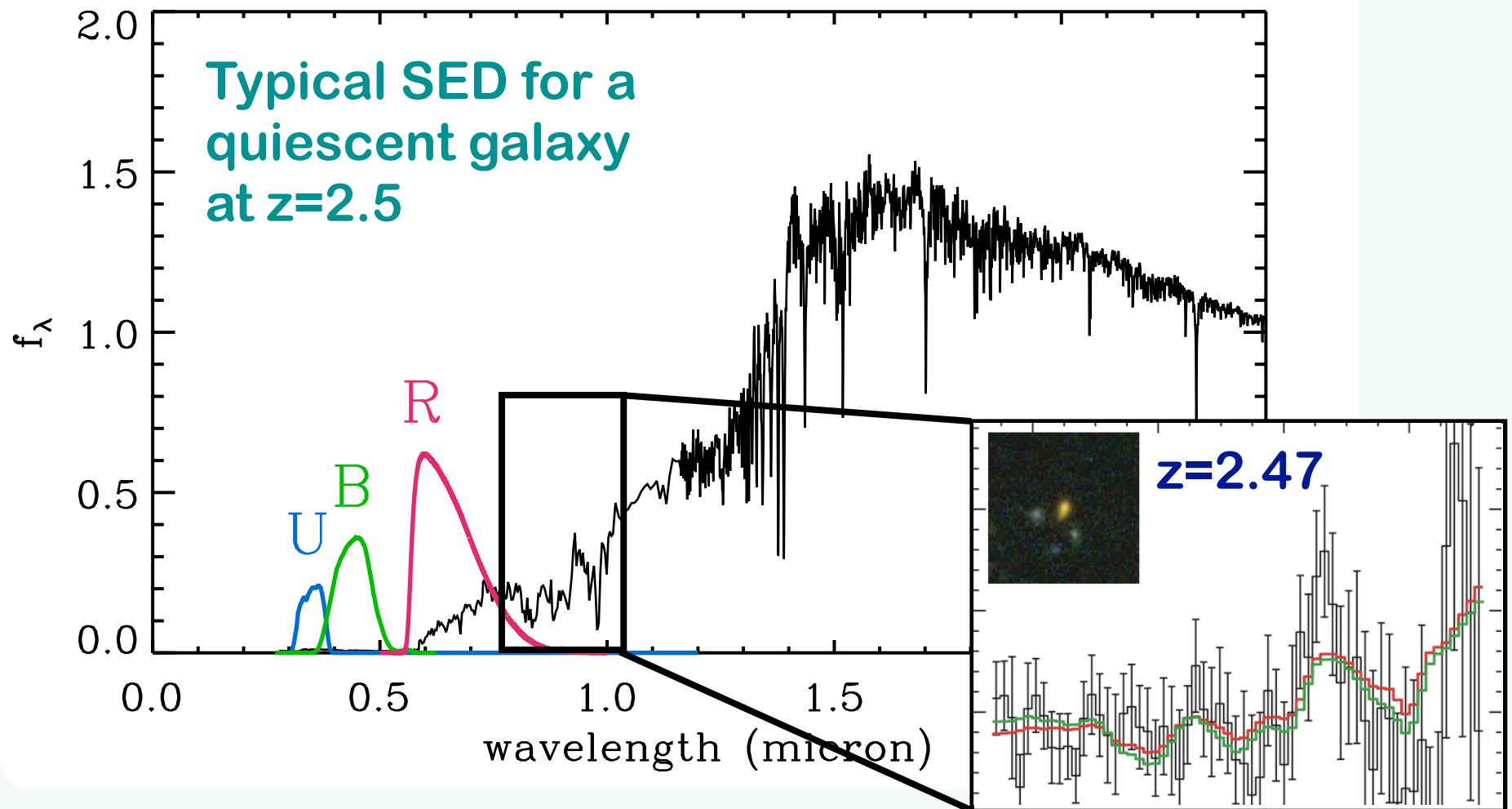
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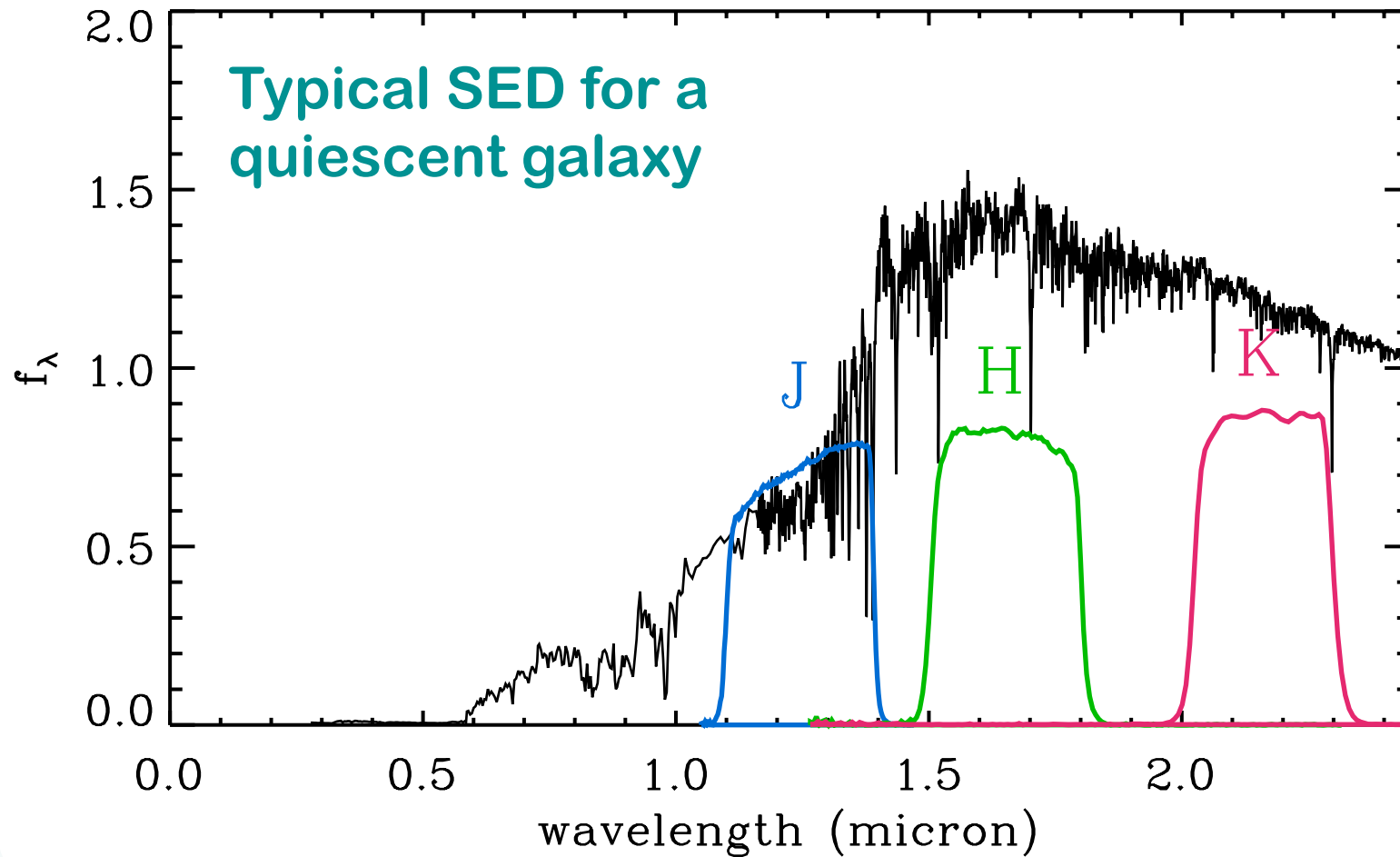
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Daddi et al. 2005



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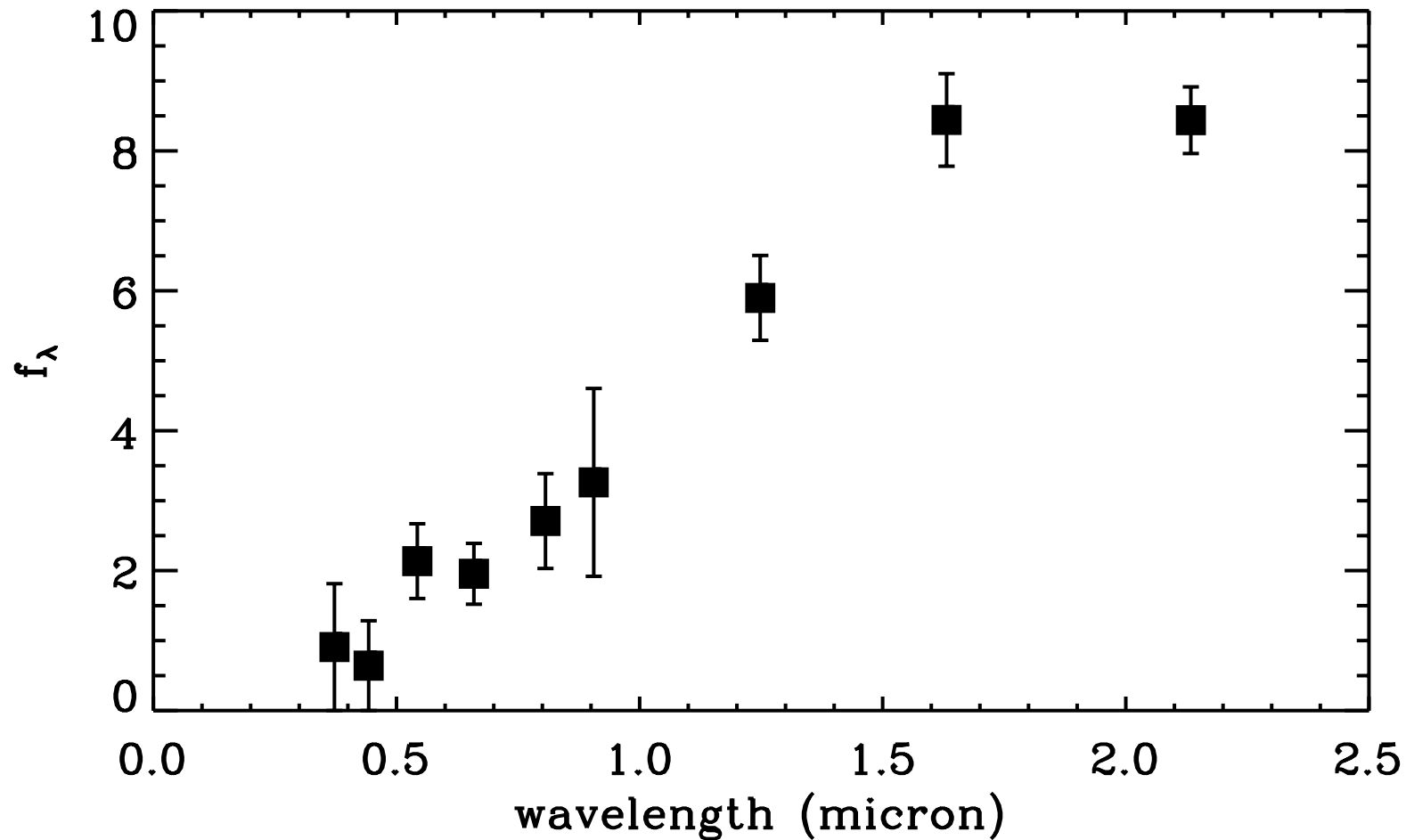


# Motivation

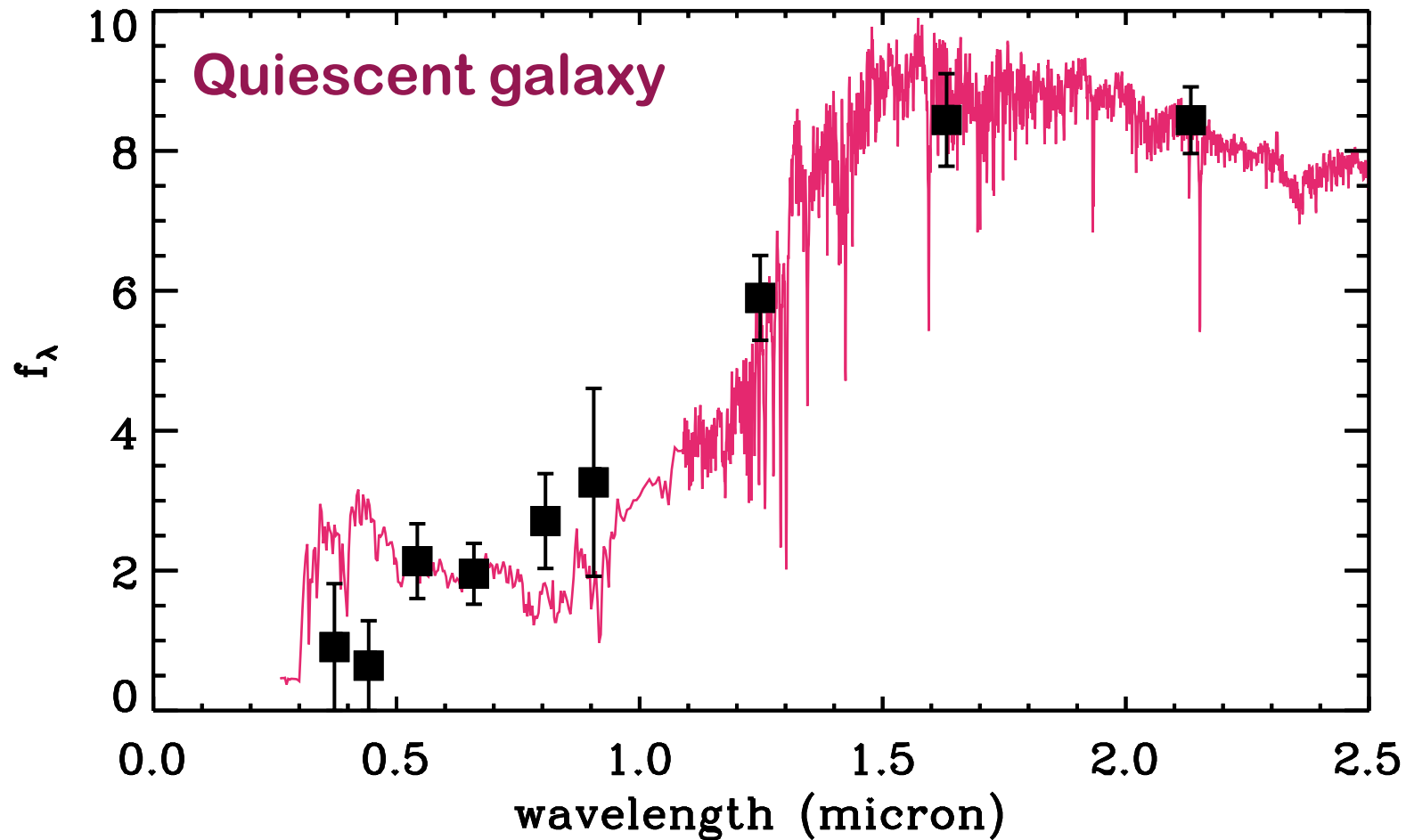


- **When was the star formation in massive galaxies quenched?**
  - ▶ **Beyond  $z > 2$ ?** (e.g., Labbe et al. 2005, Reddy et al. 2005/2006, Daddi et al. 2005)
  - ▶ **Problems:**
    - Most studies rely on photometric redshifts
    - Mostly broadband photometric studies

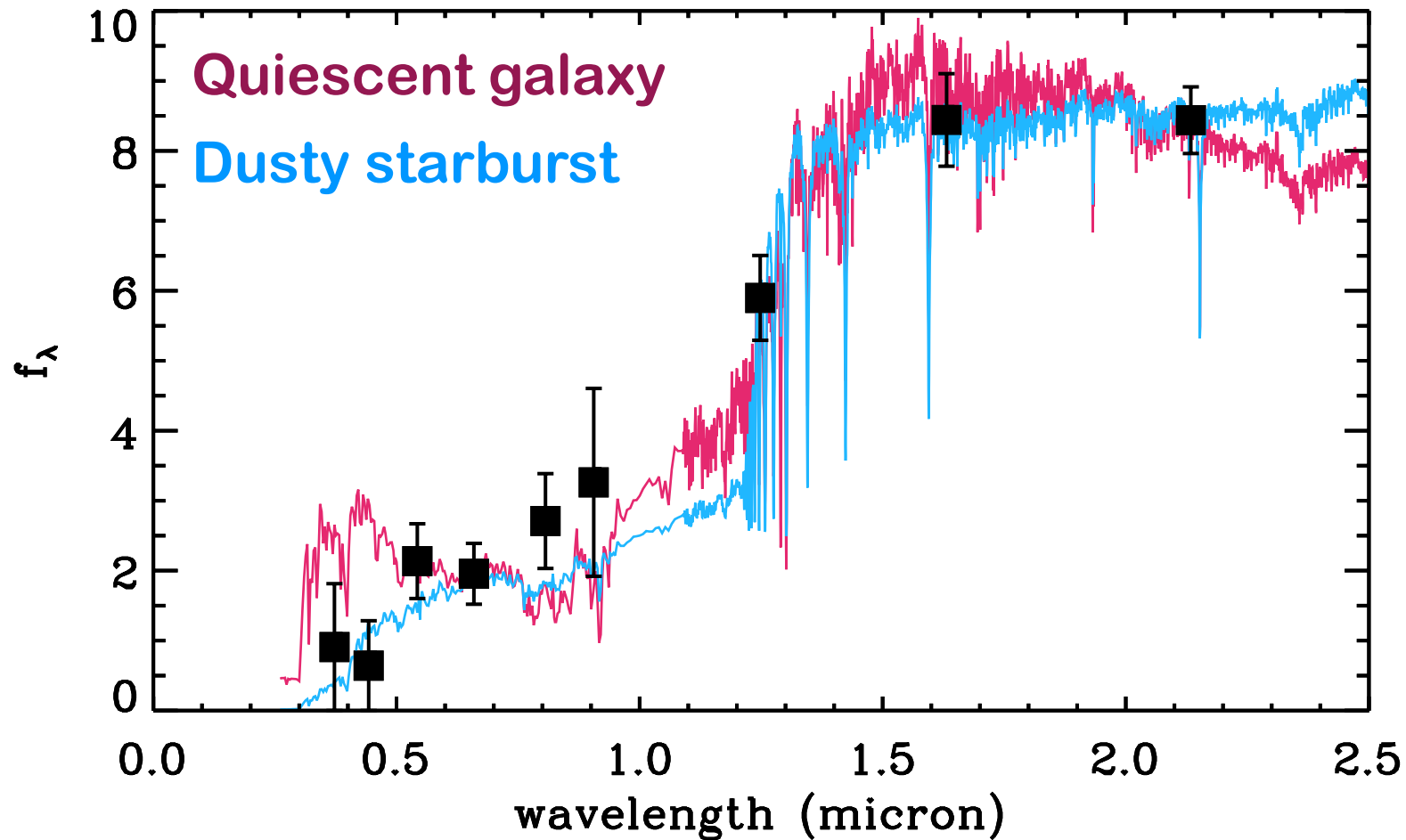
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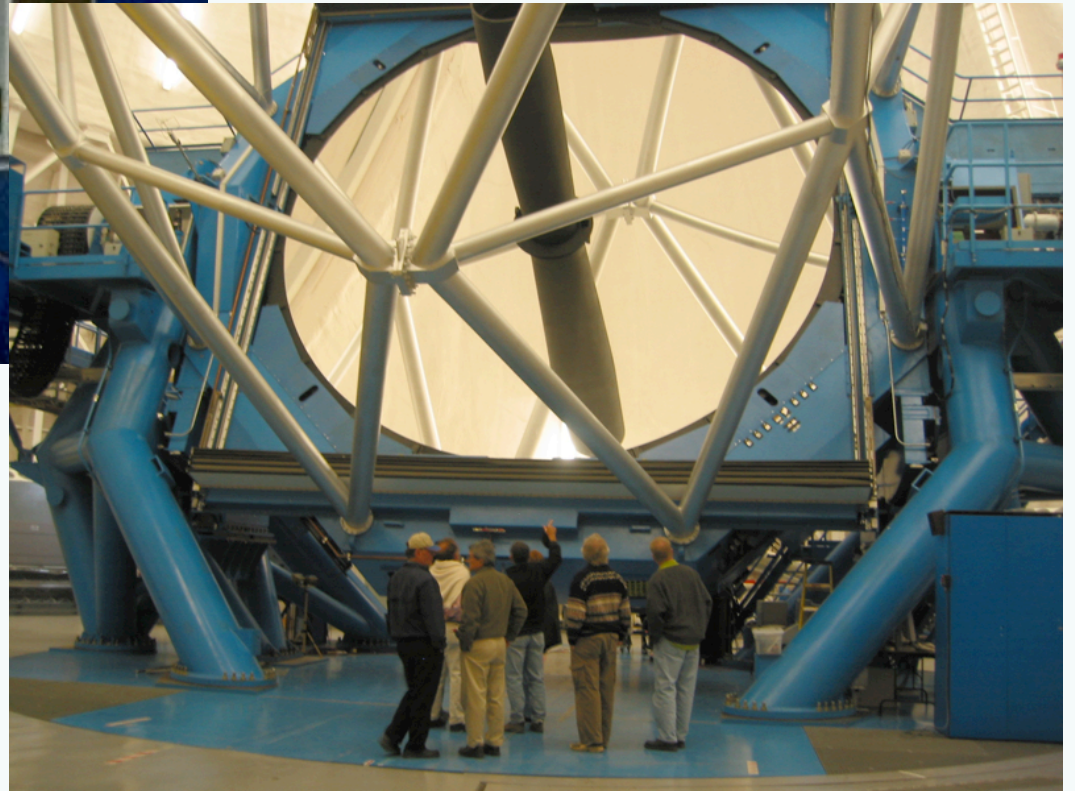


# Why are broadband photometric studies not sufficient?





# Spectroscopic survey of massive galaxies at $z \sim 2.5$ with Gemini/GNIRS

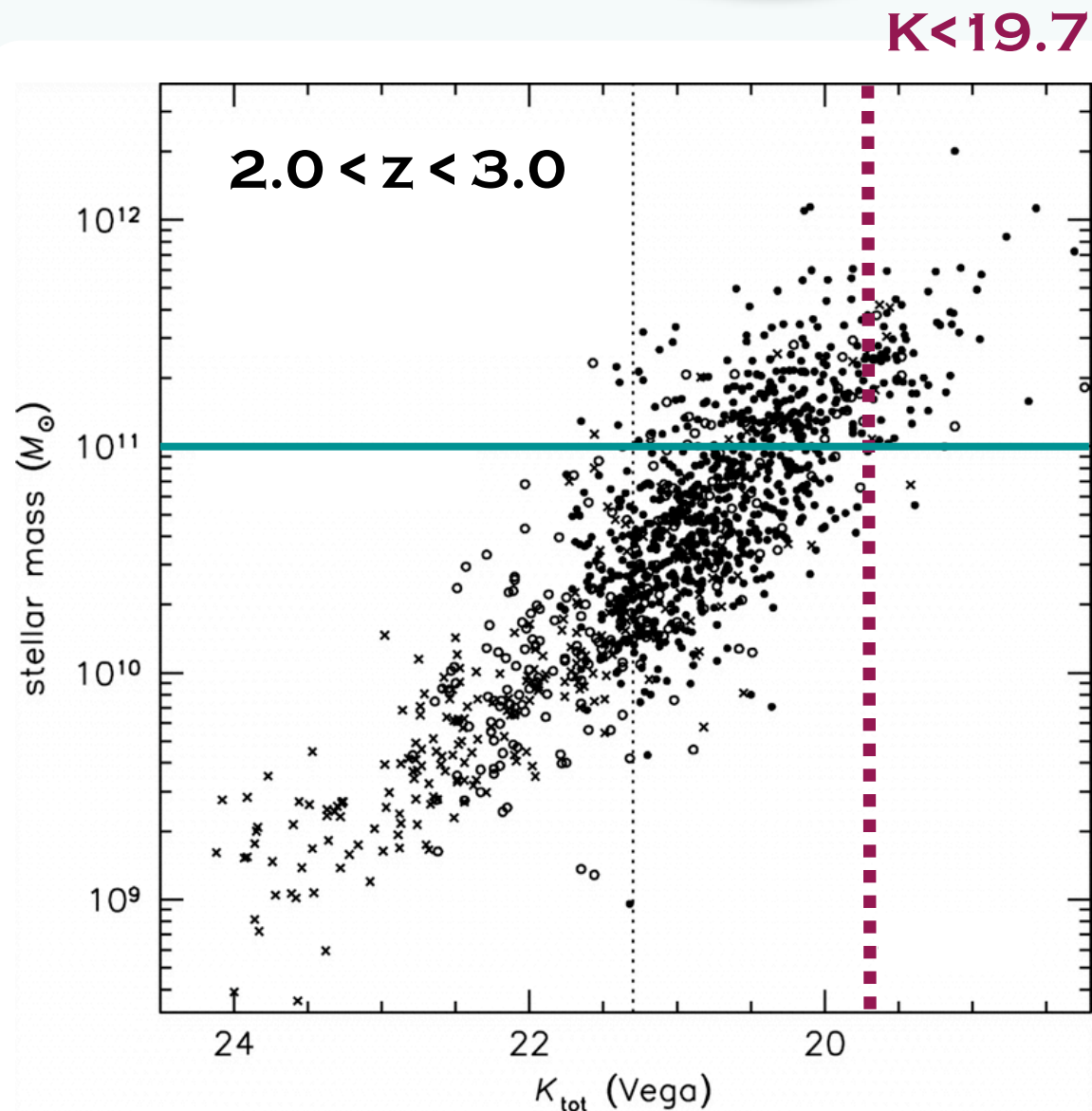


# GNIRS survey overview



- **Observation:** x-disperser 1-2.5 micron
- **Selection**
  - ▶  $2.0 < z_{\text{phot}} < 2.7$  (MUSYC photometry)
  - ▶ K-selected ( $<19.7$ )

# Stellar mass vs. K-magnitude



$K < 19.7$

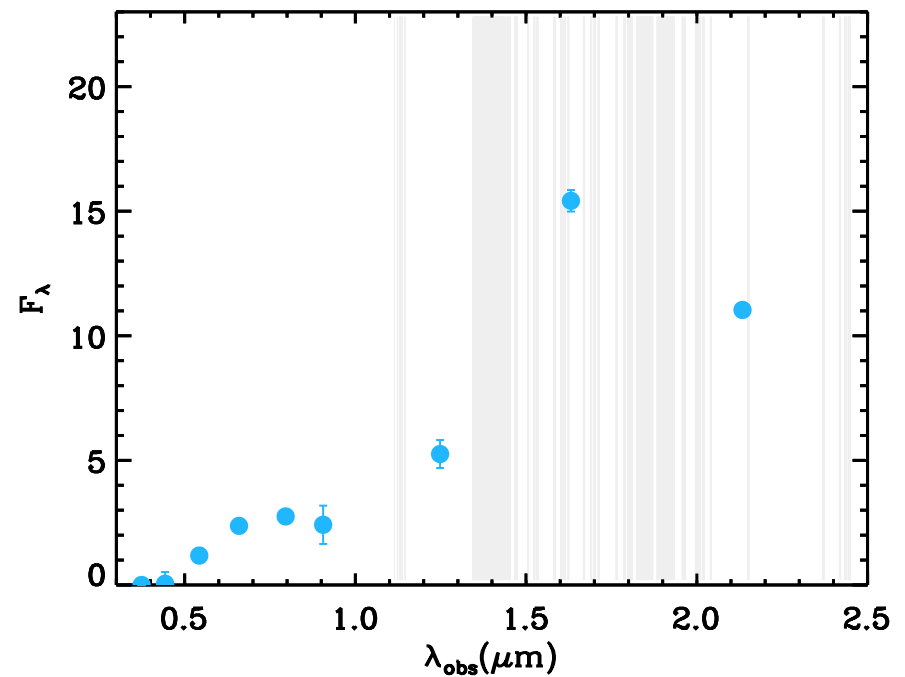
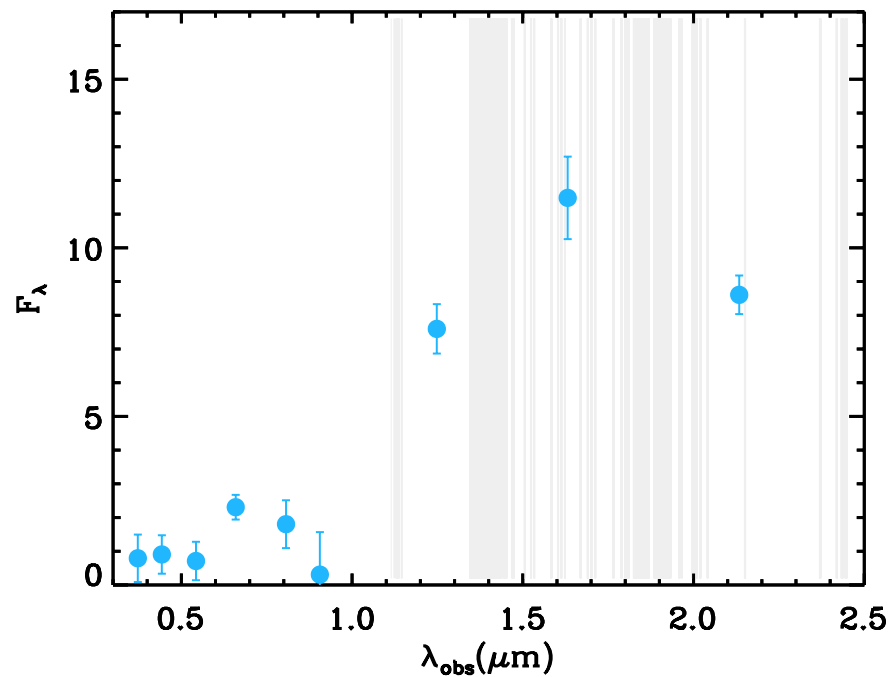
$M > 10^{11} M_{\odot}$

# GNIRS survey overview

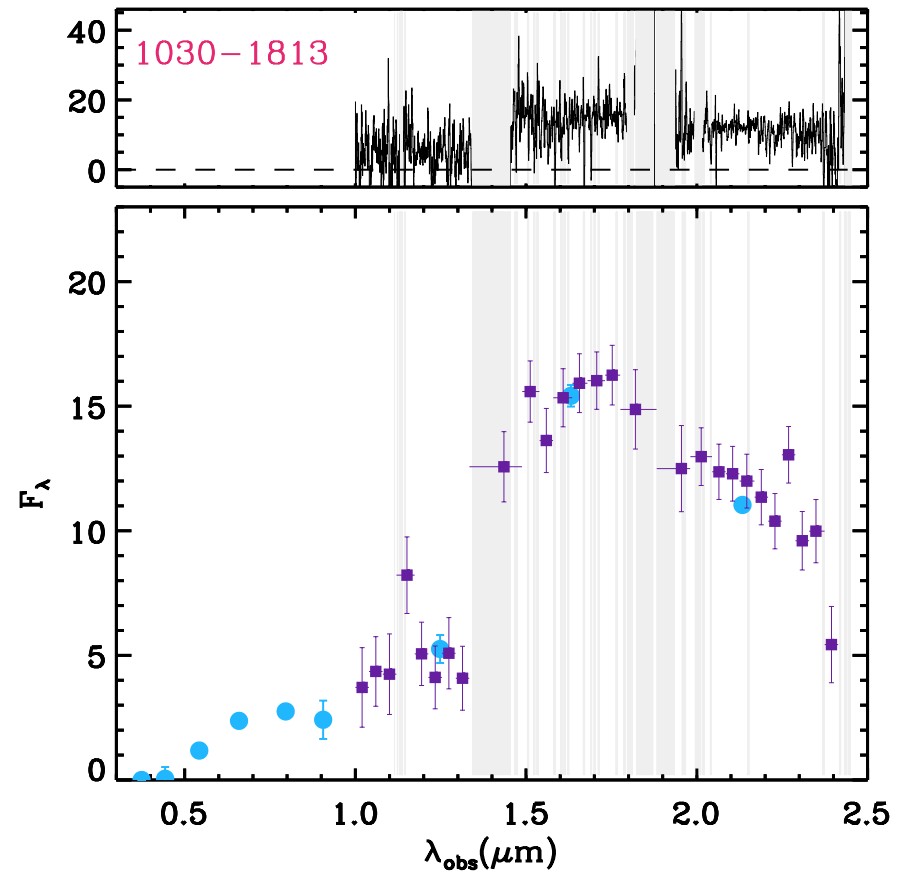
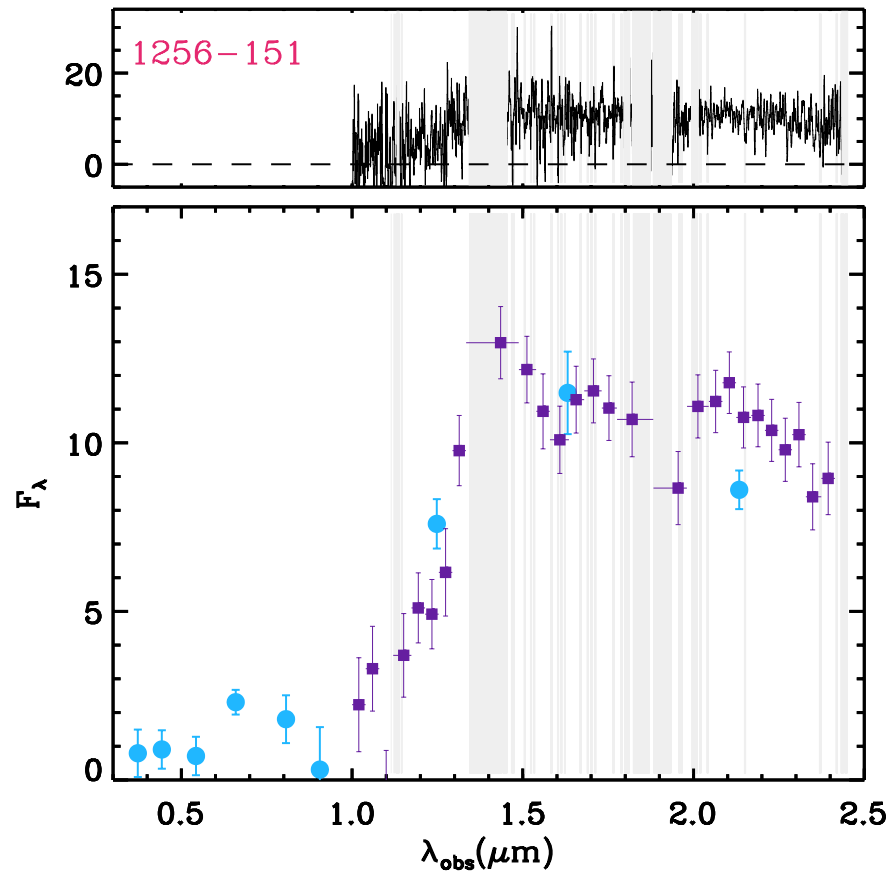


- **Observation:** x-disperser 1-2.5 micron
- **Selection**
  - ▶  $2.0 < z_{\text{phot}} < 2.7$  (MUSYC photometry)
  - ▶ K-selected ( $< 19.7$ )
- **Sample: 26 Galaxies (+ 4 nights in Dec)**
  - ▶ 6 galaxies with  $1.8 < z_{\text{spec}} < 2.0$
  - ▶ 20 galaxies with  $2.0 < z_{\text{spec}} < 2.7$
- **Follow-up:** NIRSPEC, SINFONI, NIRC2-AO, NICMOS, IRAC, MIPS, LDSS3

# Galaxies without detected H $\alpha$ emission

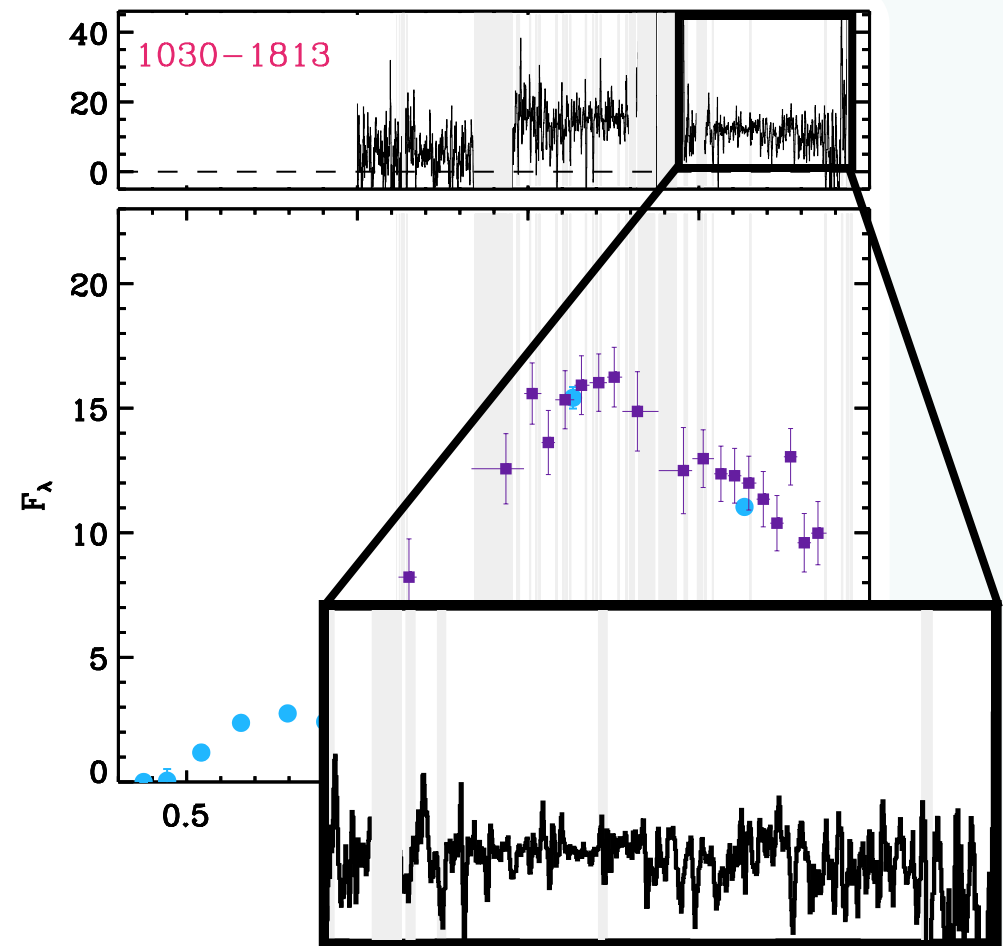
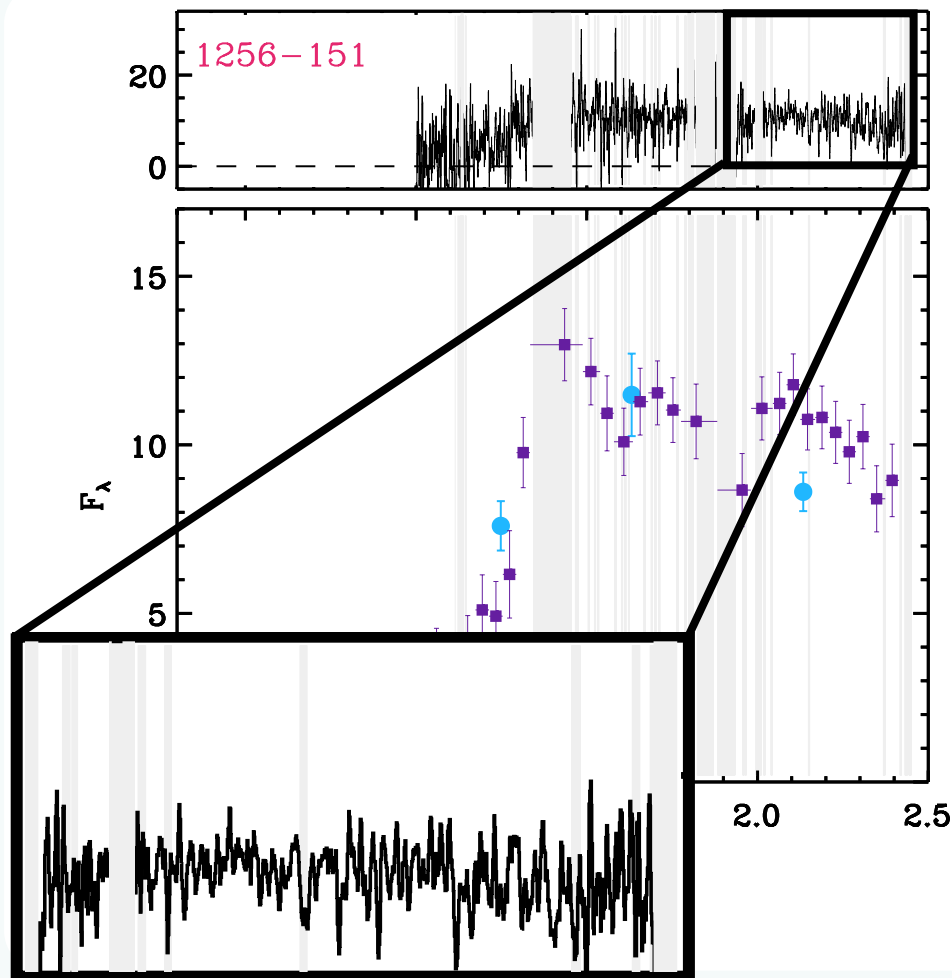


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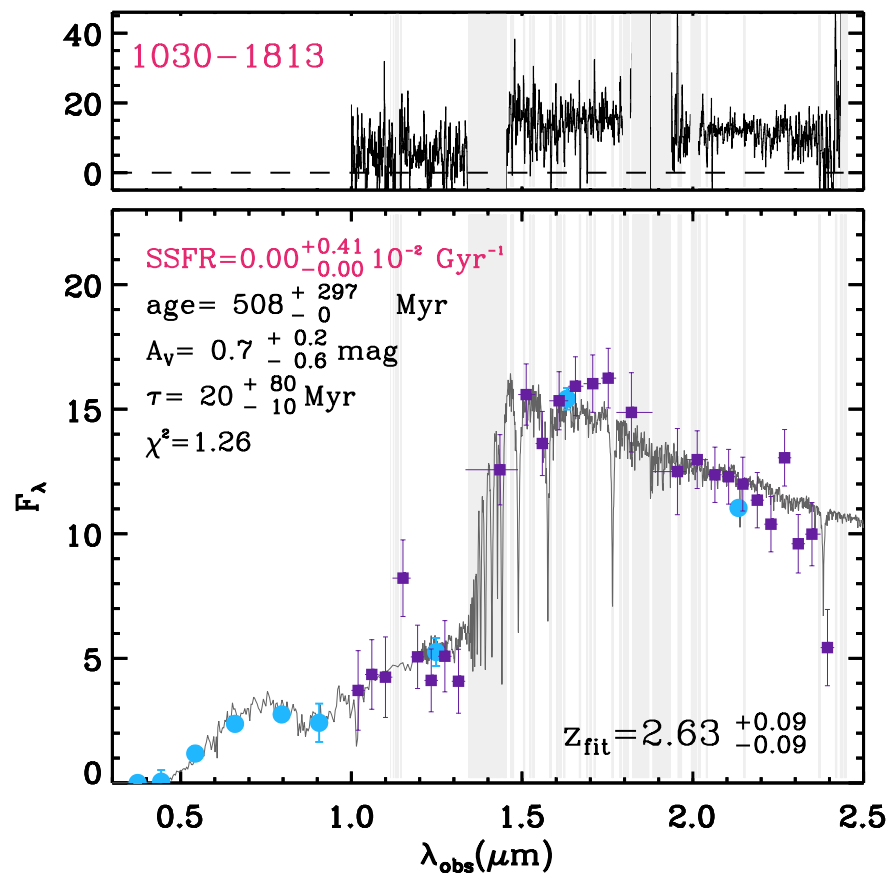
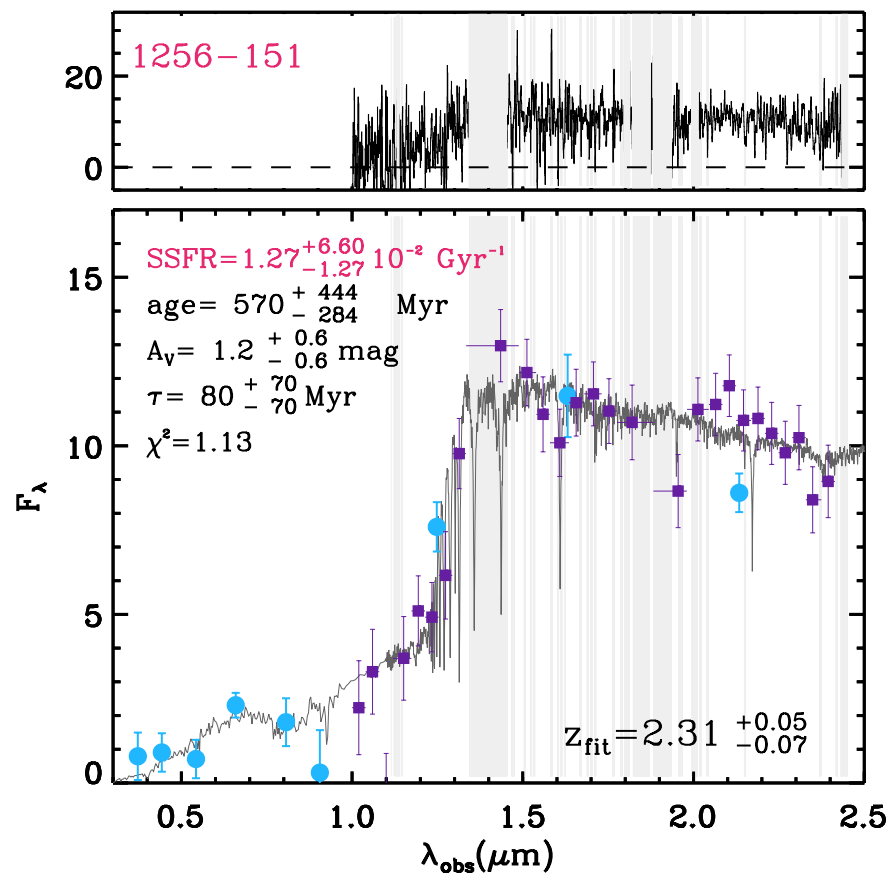




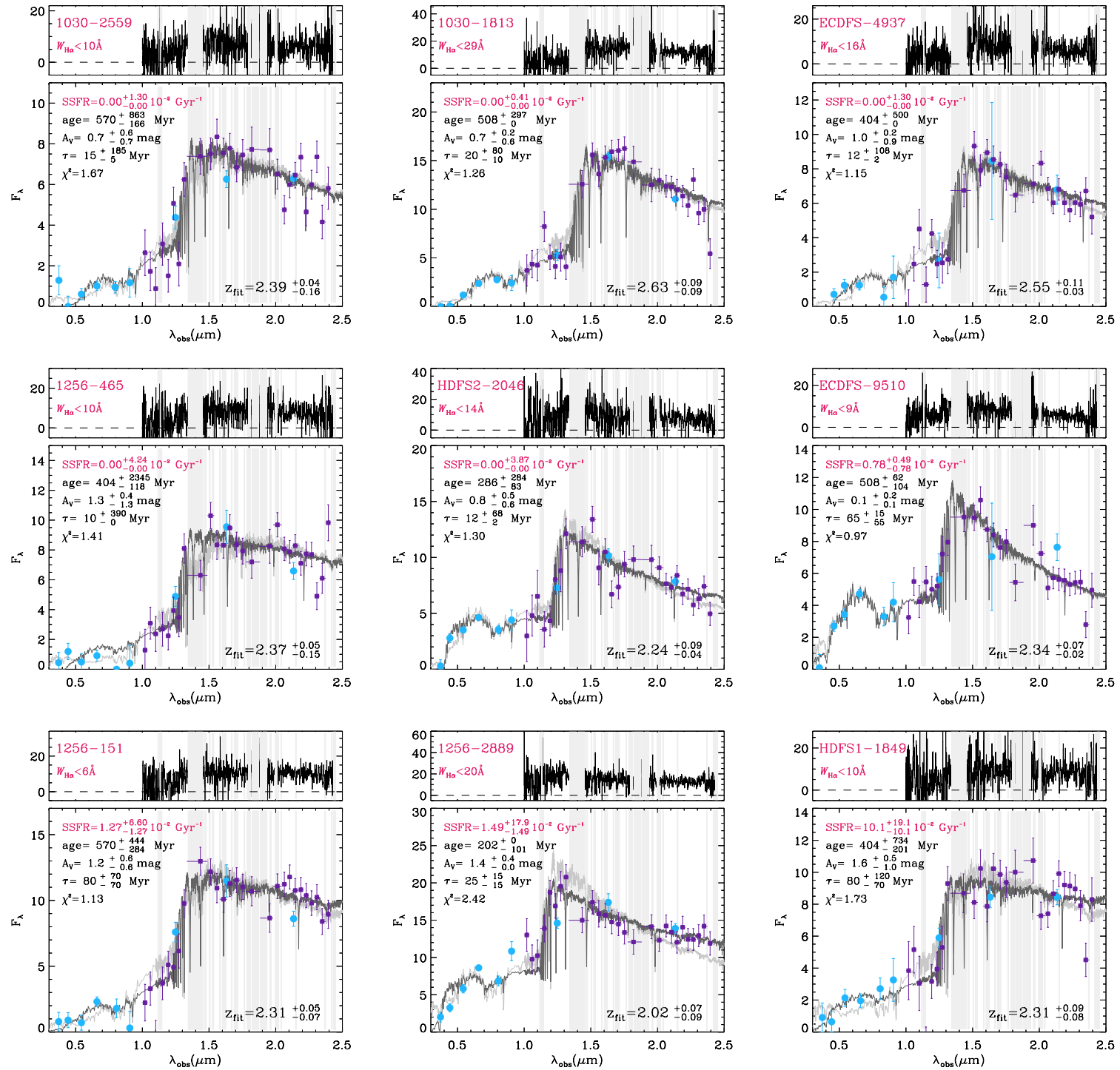
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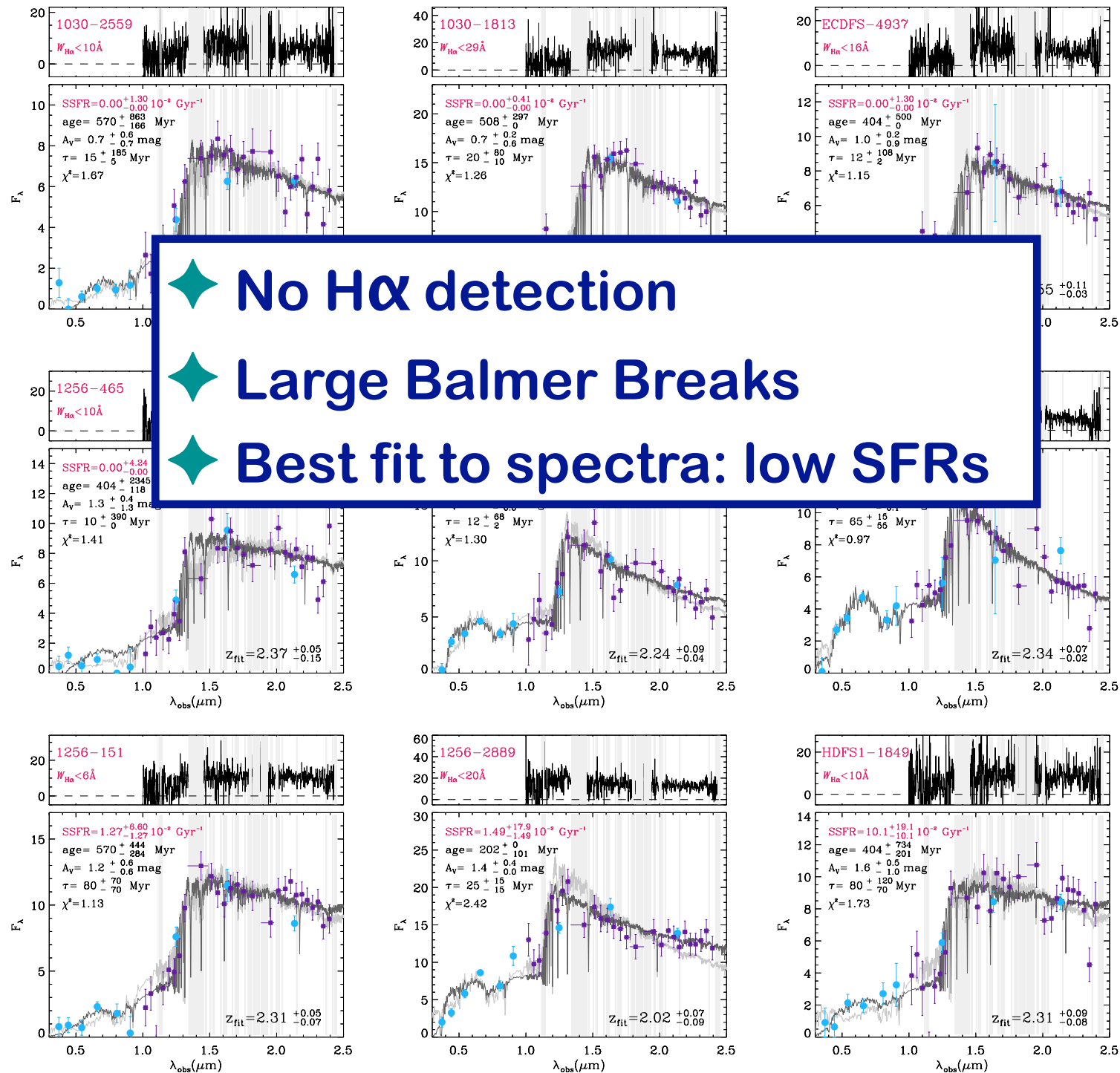


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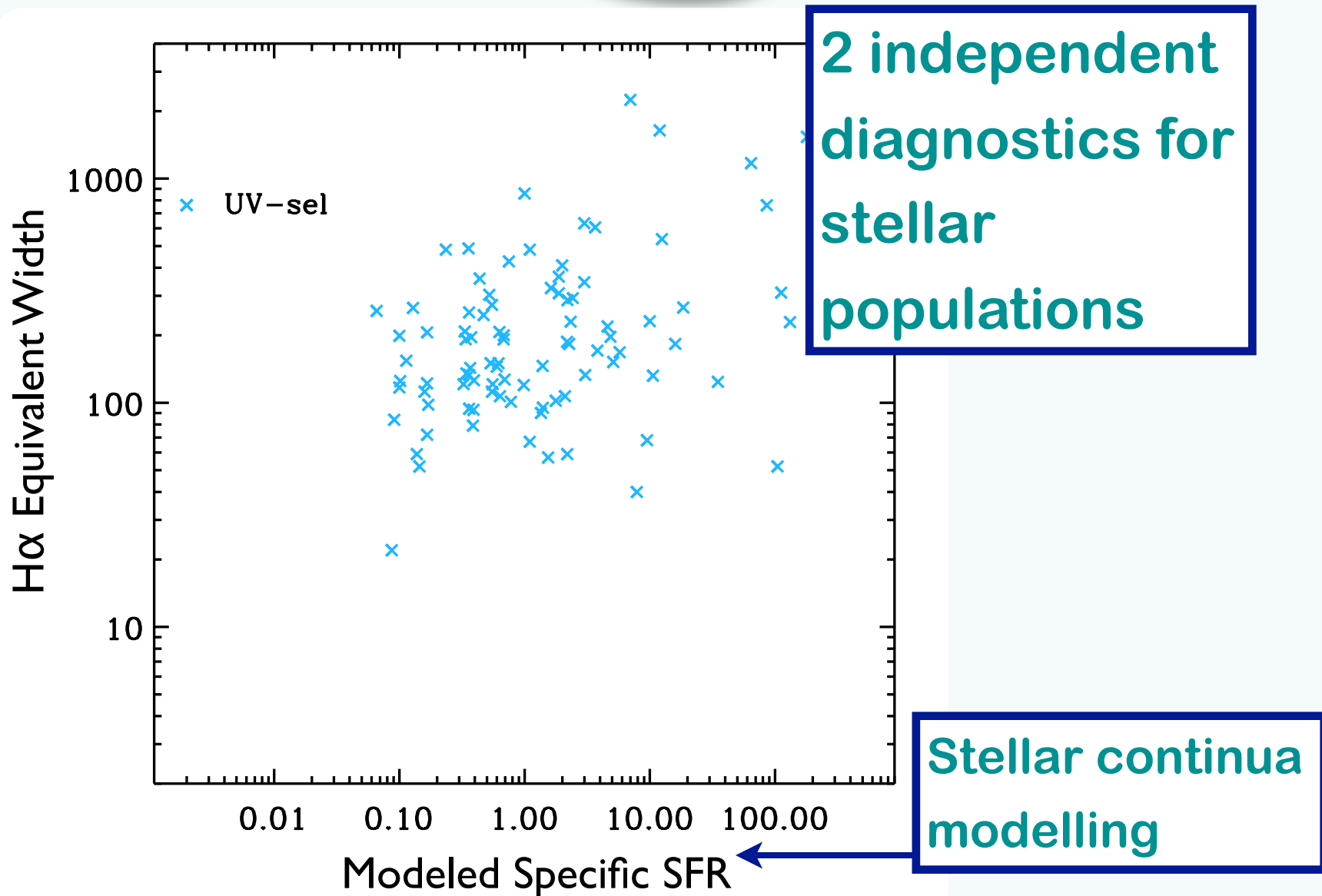




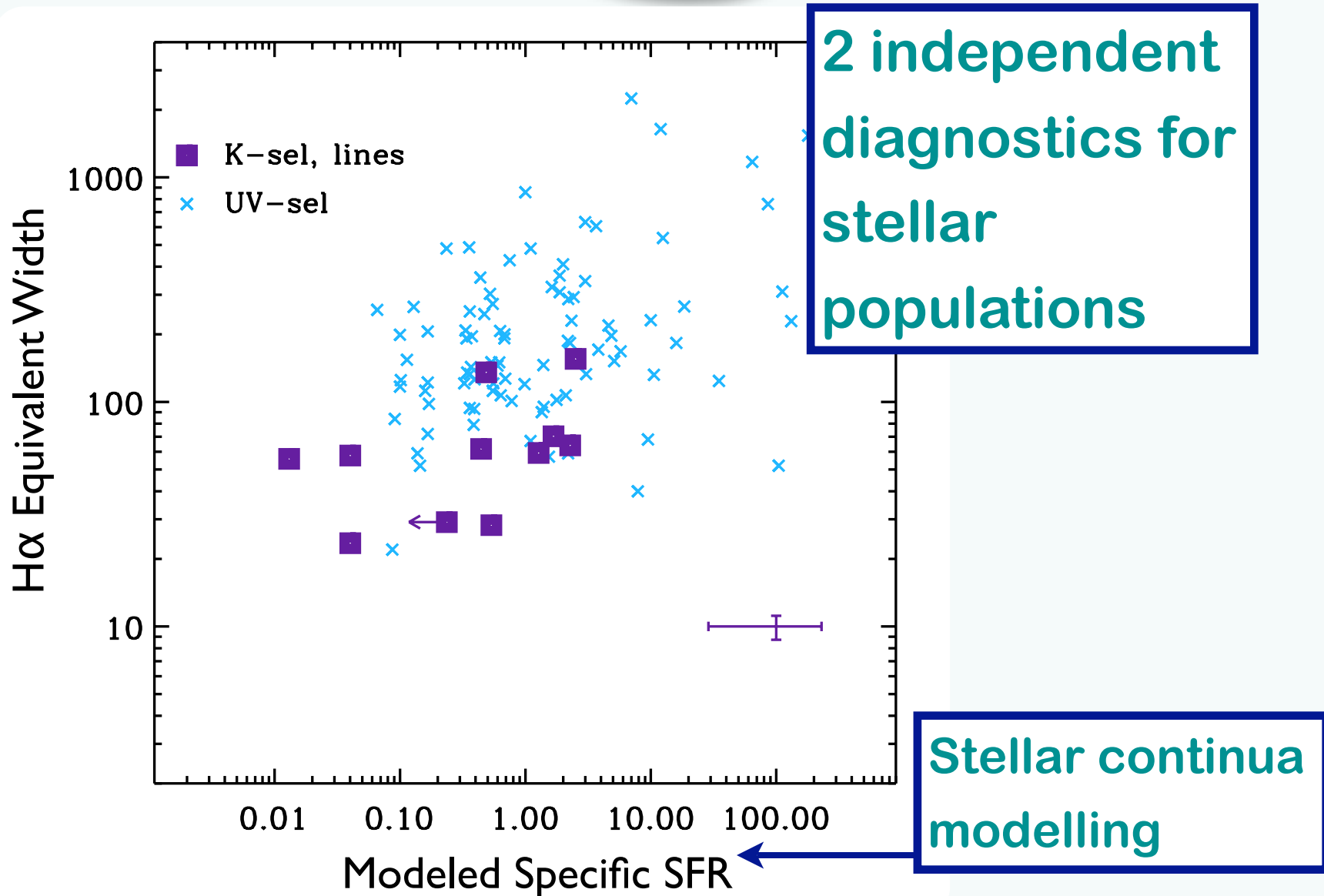




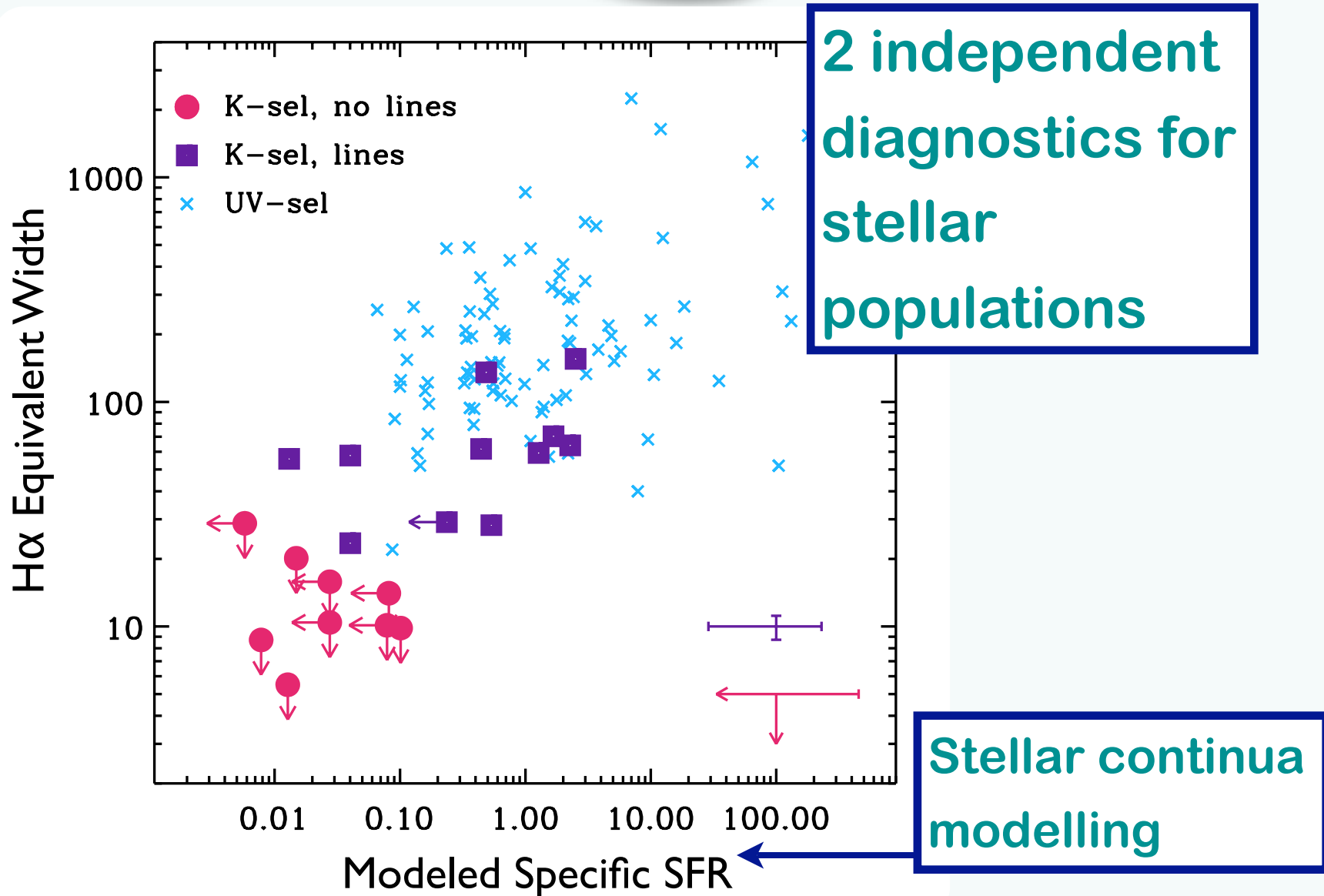
# Stellar populations in galaxies at $z \sim 2.3$



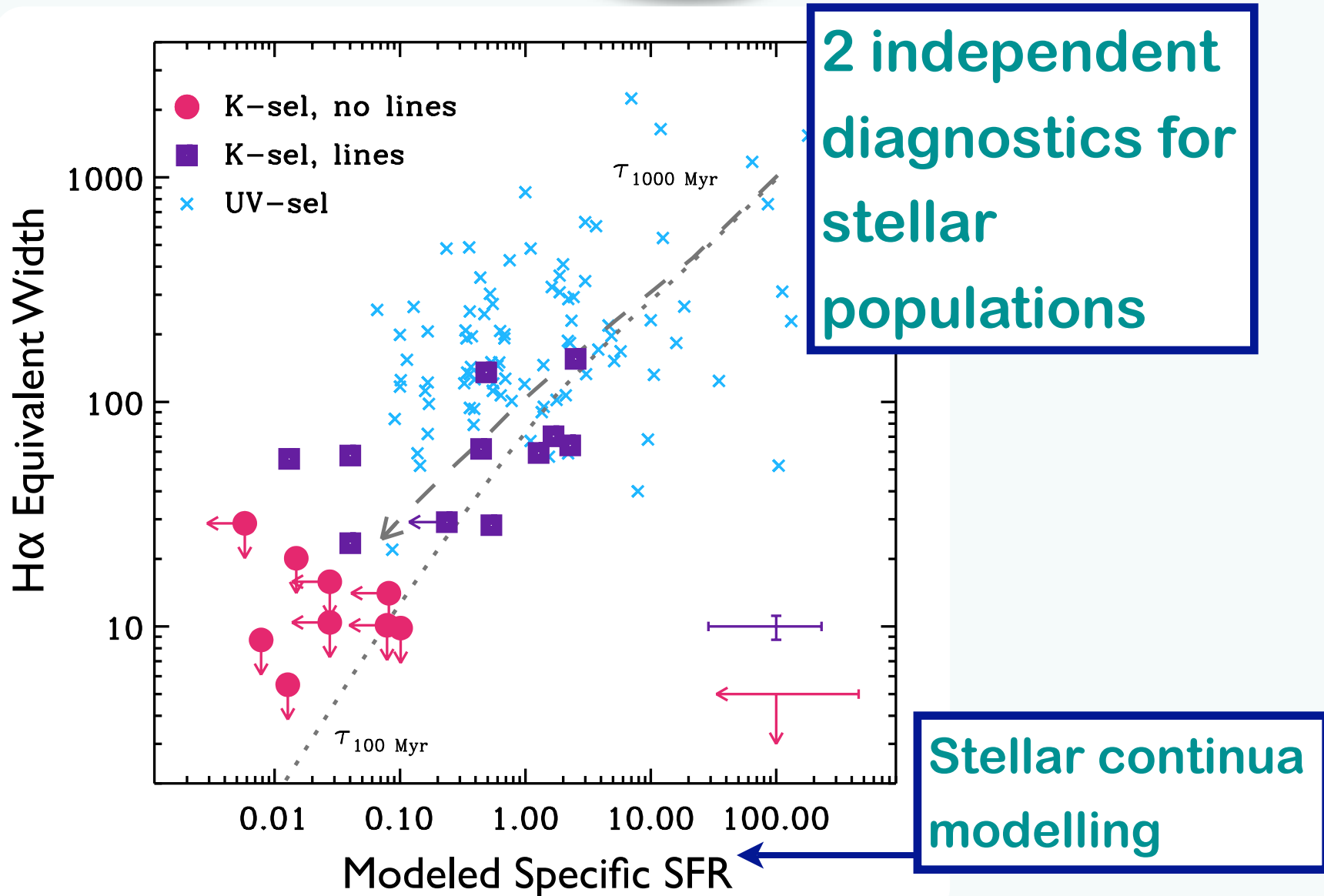
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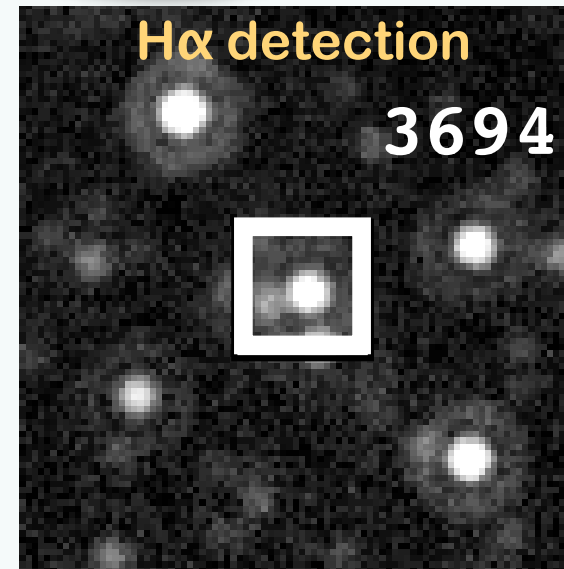
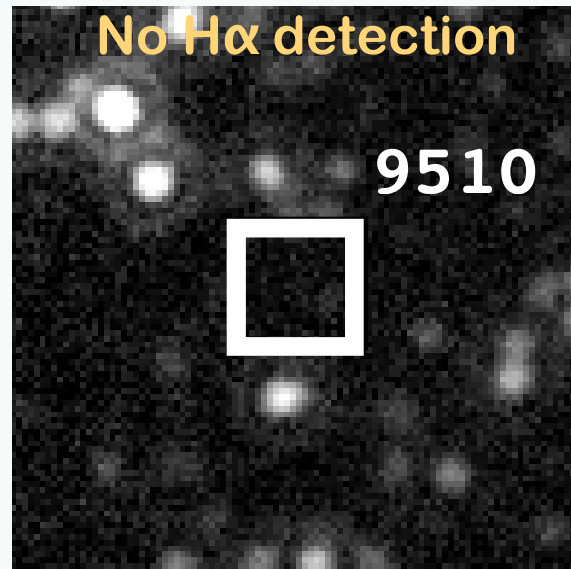
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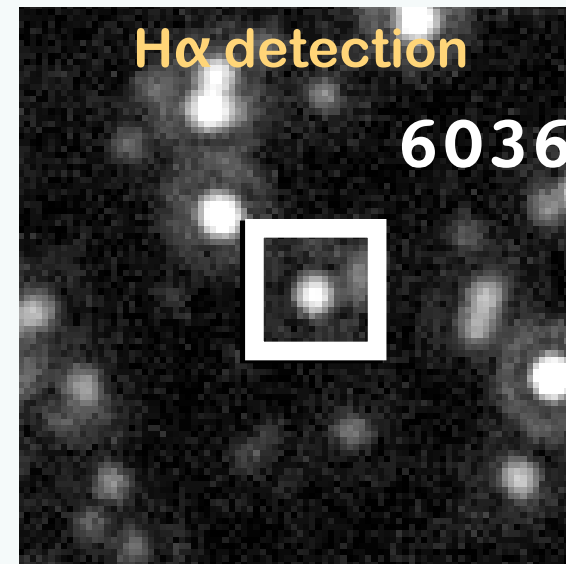
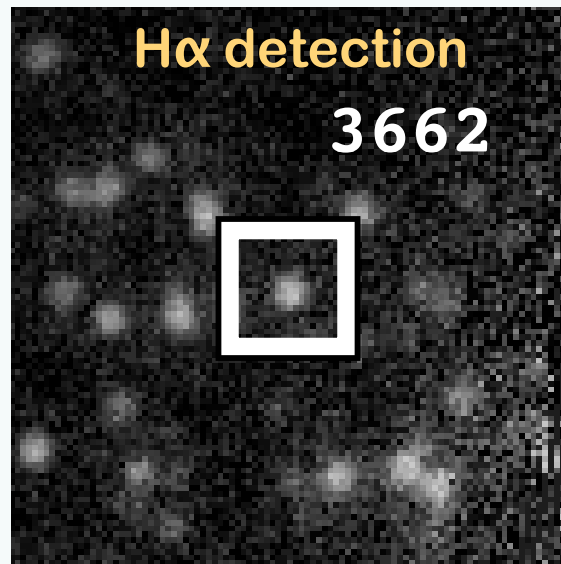
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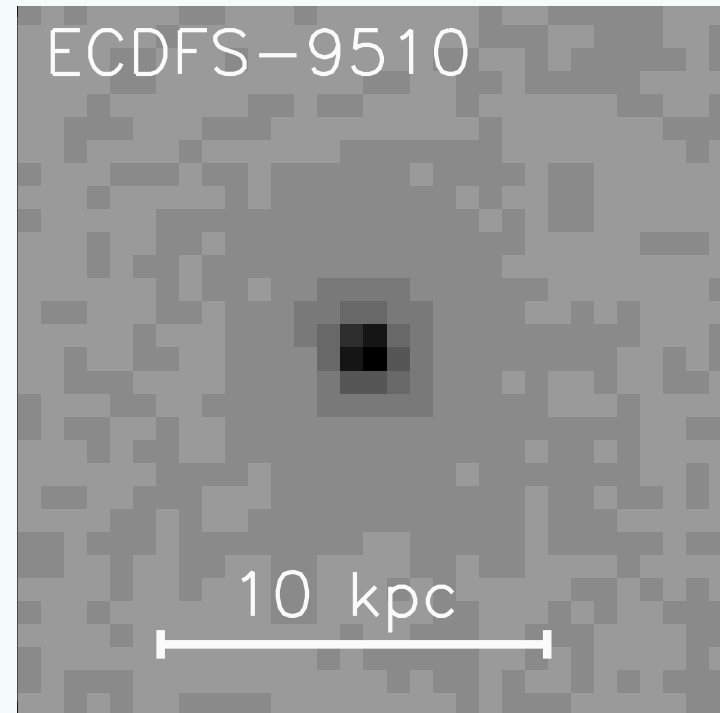
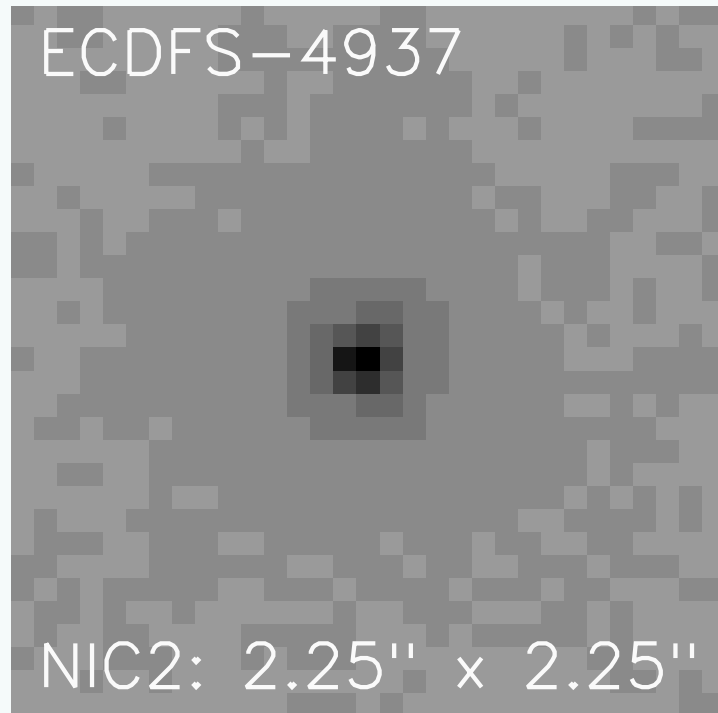
# Did we miss obscured star formation?



MIPS  
24 micron  
imaging



# Morphologies of quiescent $z \sim 2.3$ galaxies





# Motivation & Conclusion



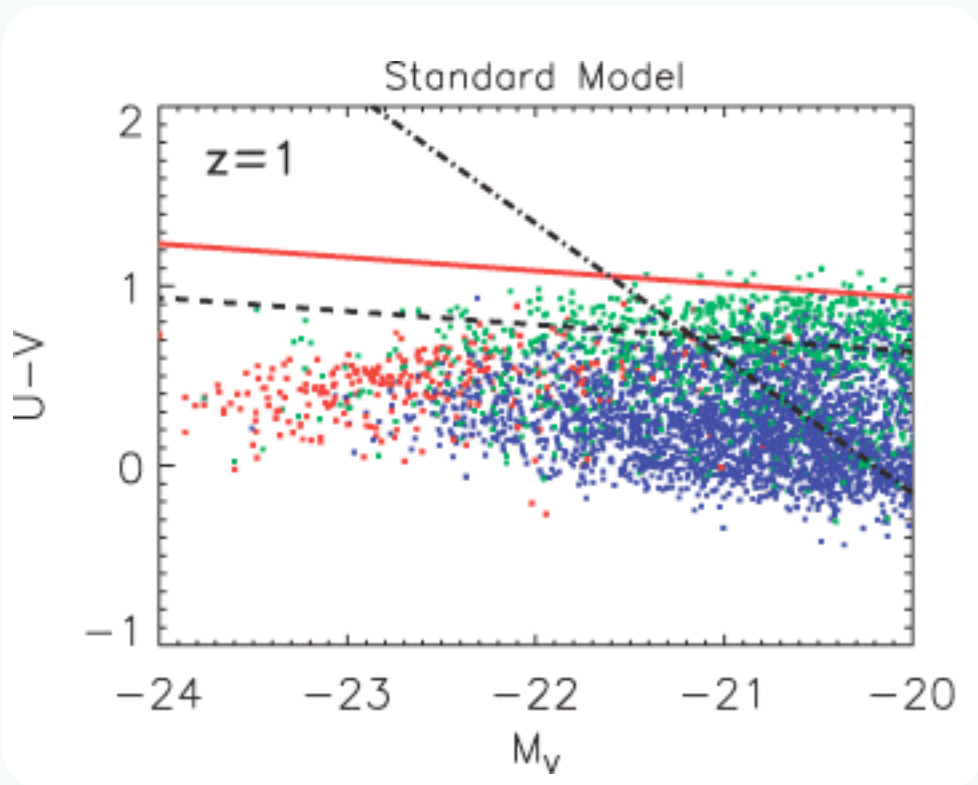
- When was the star formation in massive galaxies quenched?
  - ▶ In a substantial part of the massive galaxies at  $z \sim 2.3$  the star formation is already strongly suppressed

# Motivation



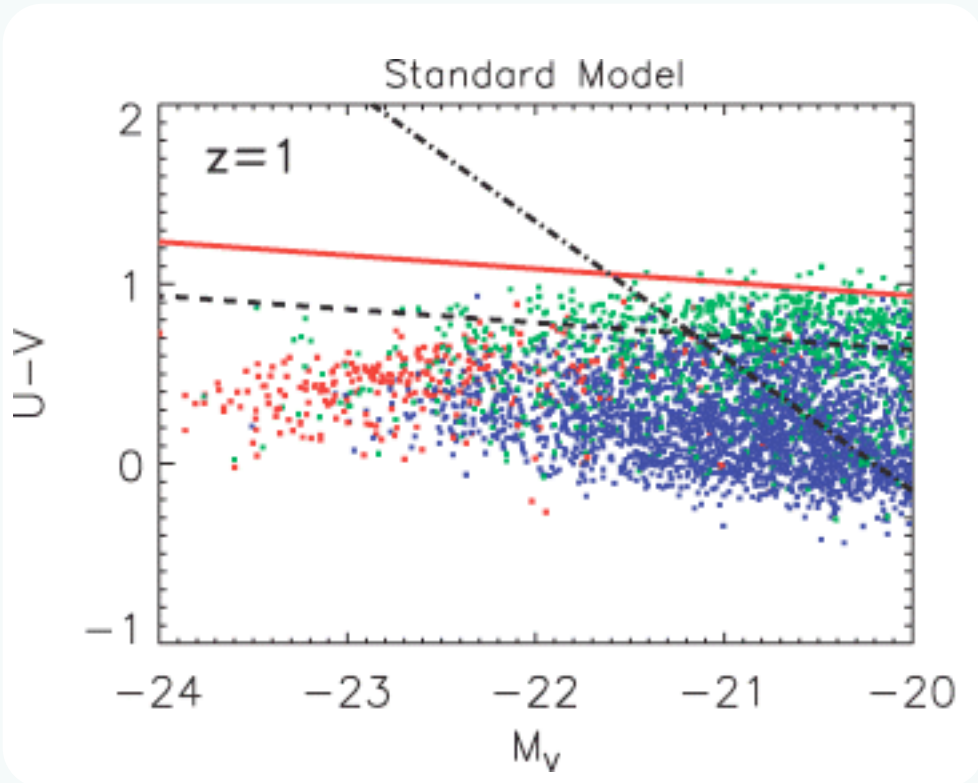
- When was the star formation in massive galaxies quenched?
  - ▶ In a substantial part of the massive galaxies at  $z \sim 2.3$  the star formation is already strongly suppressed
- What mechanism is responsible for this quenching?
  - ▶ AGN feedback? (Croton et al. 2006, Bower et al. 2006, Hopkins et al. 2006)

# Why do models need AGN feedback?

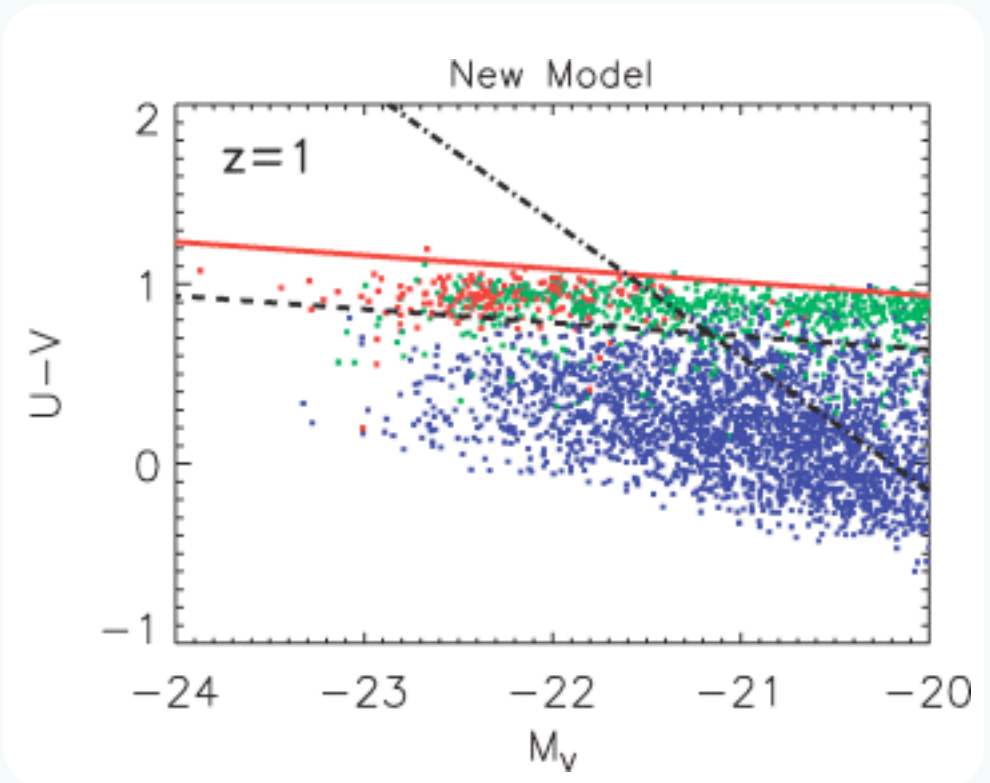


**All massive galaxies are blue**

# Why do models need AGN feedback?



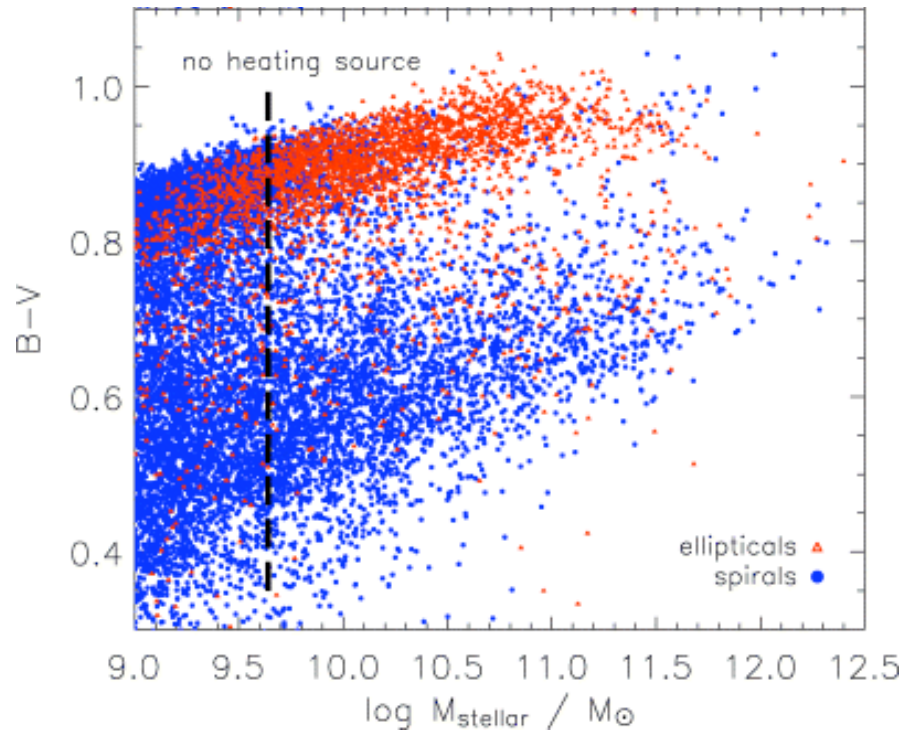
All massive galaxies are blue



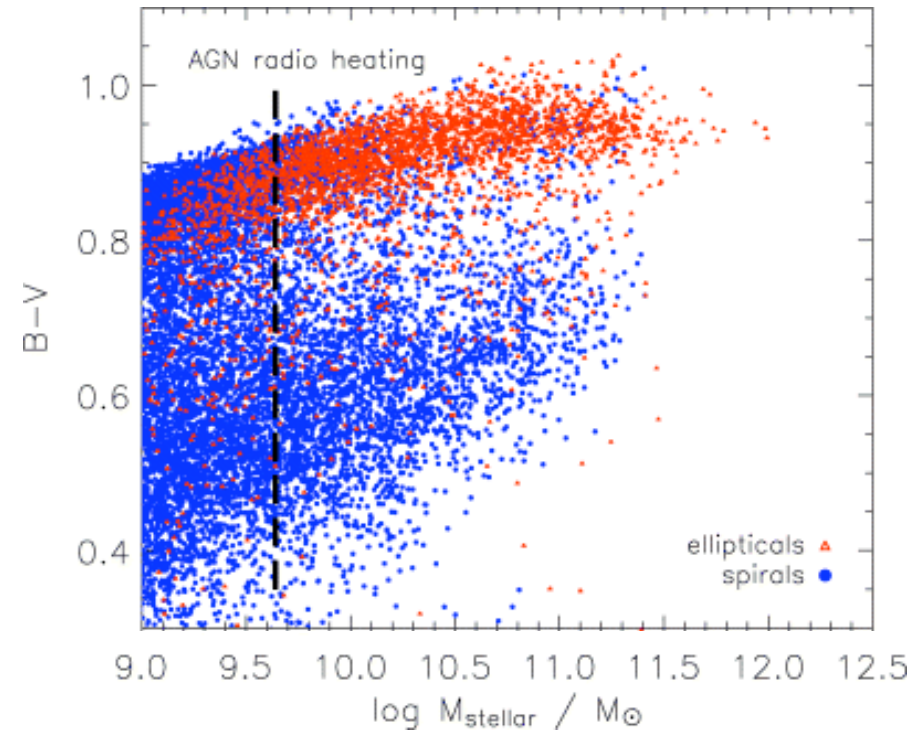
Massive galaxies are both blue and red

# Why do models need AGN feedback?

no heating source

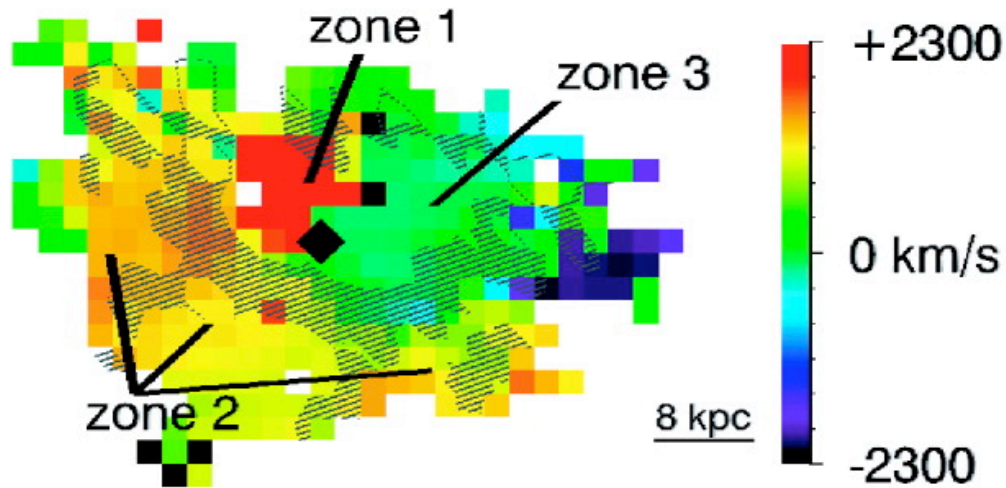


AGN radio heating

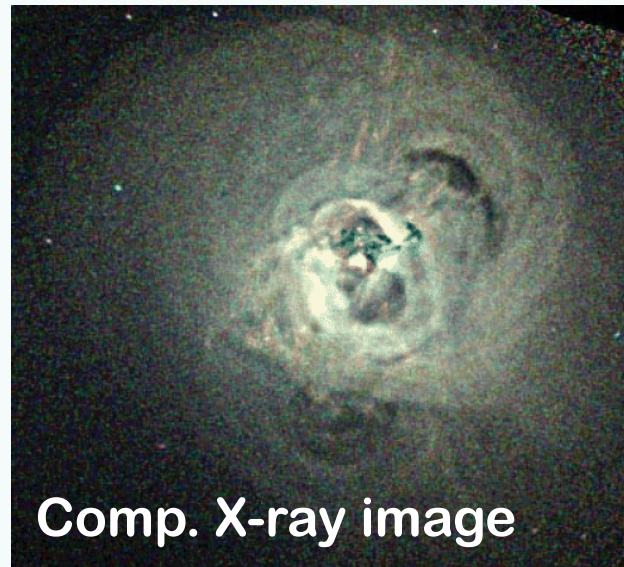




# Examples of AGN feedback

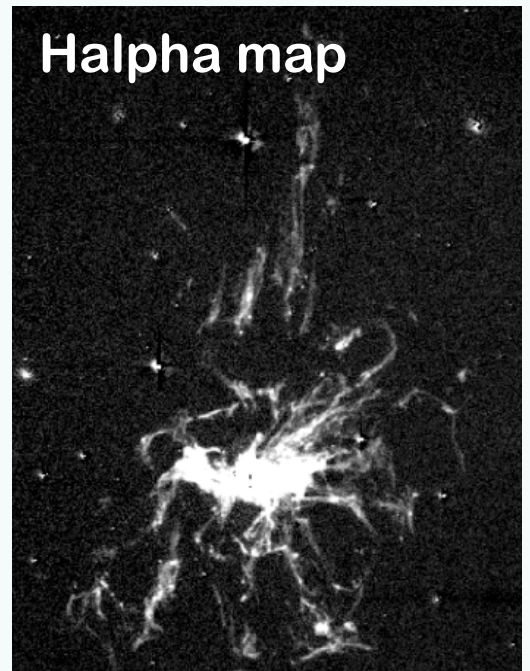


Radio galaxy at  $z=2.2$   
(Nesvadba et al. 2006)



Comp. X-ray image

Perseus (Fabian+)



Halpha map

# Motivation



- When was the star formation in massive galaxies quenched?
  - ▶ In a substantial part of the massive galaxies at  $z \sim 2.3$  the star formation is already strongly suppressed
- What mechanism is responsible for this quenching?
  - ▶ AGN feedback? (Croton et al. 2006, Bower et al. 2006, Hopkins et al. 2006)

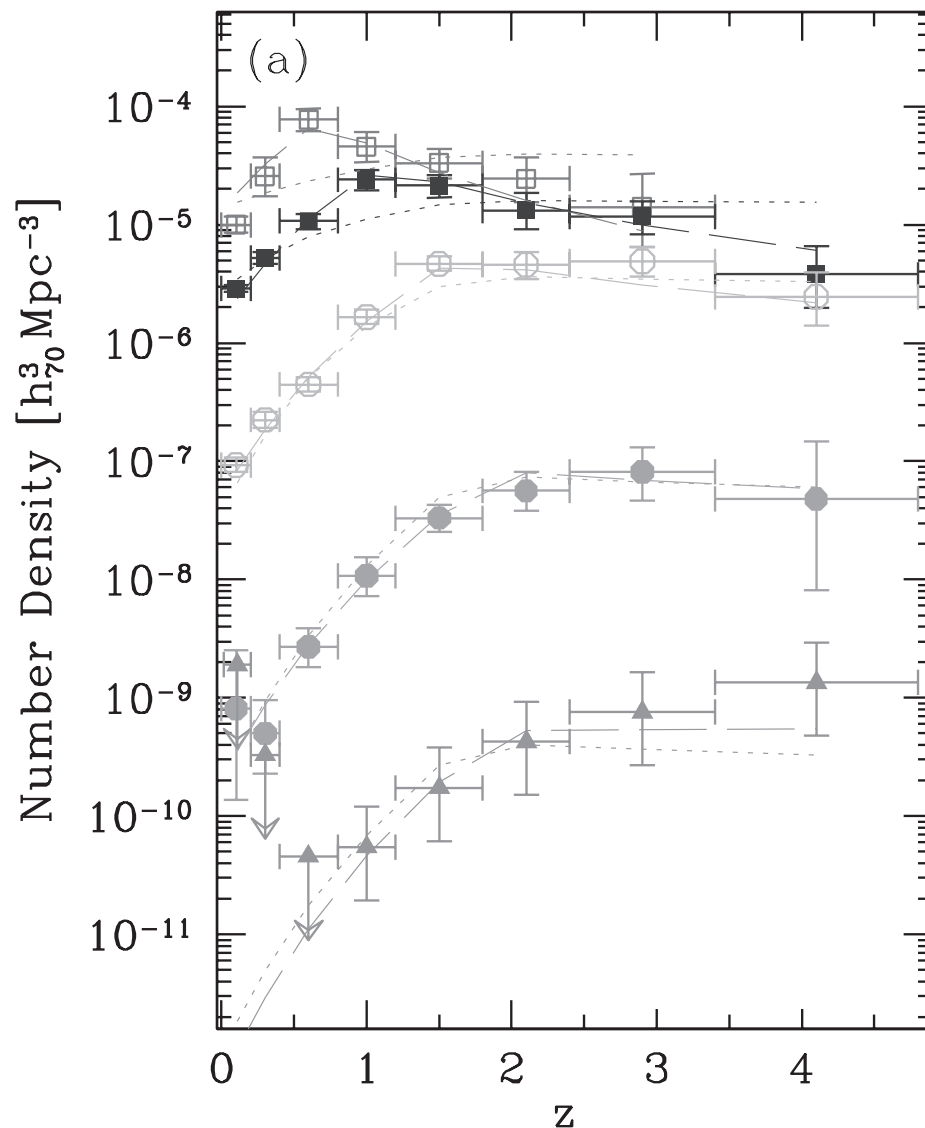
# Motivation



- When was the star formation in massive galaxies quenched?
  - ▶ In a substantial part of the massive galaxies at  $z \sim 2.3$  the star formation is already strongly suppressed
- What is the role of AGNs in the star formation history of galaxies?



# Downsizing of AGN



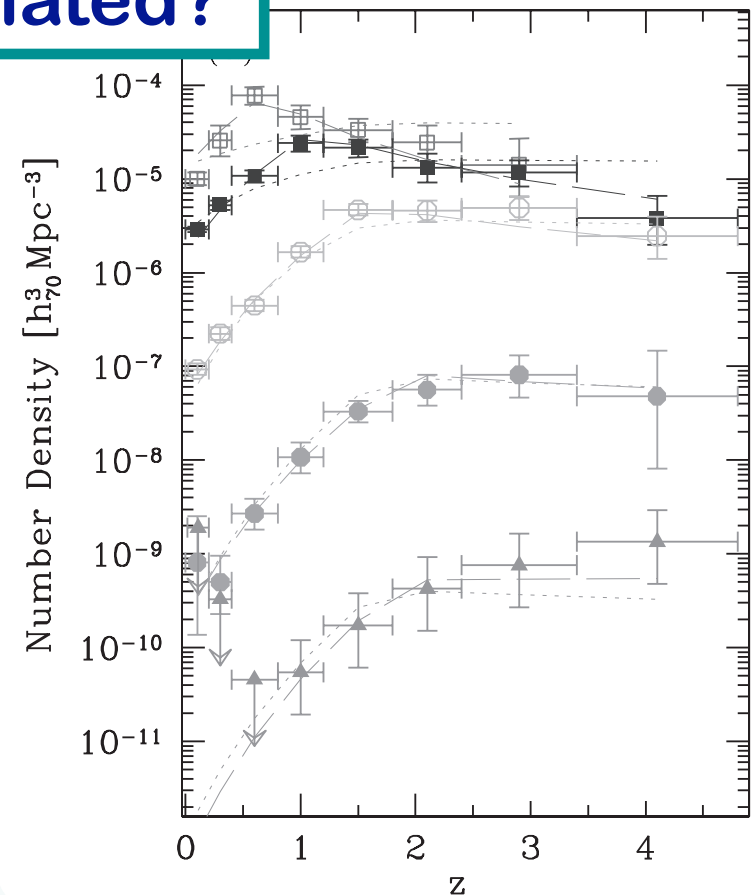
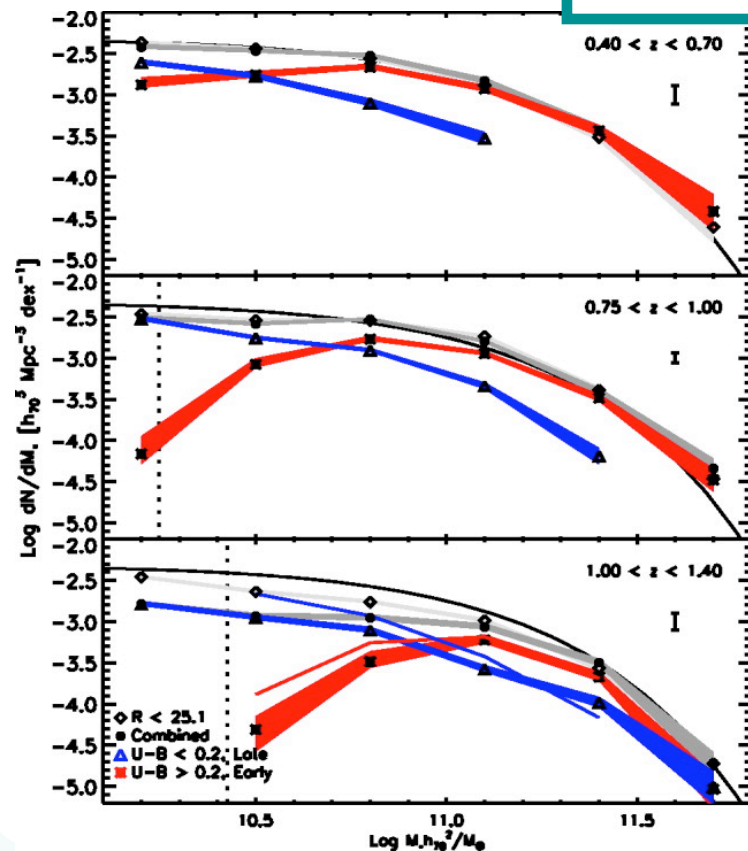
Log L Range

- ▲  $>46.0$
- $45.0-46.0$
- $44.0-45.0$
- $43.0-44.0$
- $42.0-43.0$

The density of more luminous AGNs peaks at higher redshift than the density of less luminous AGNs

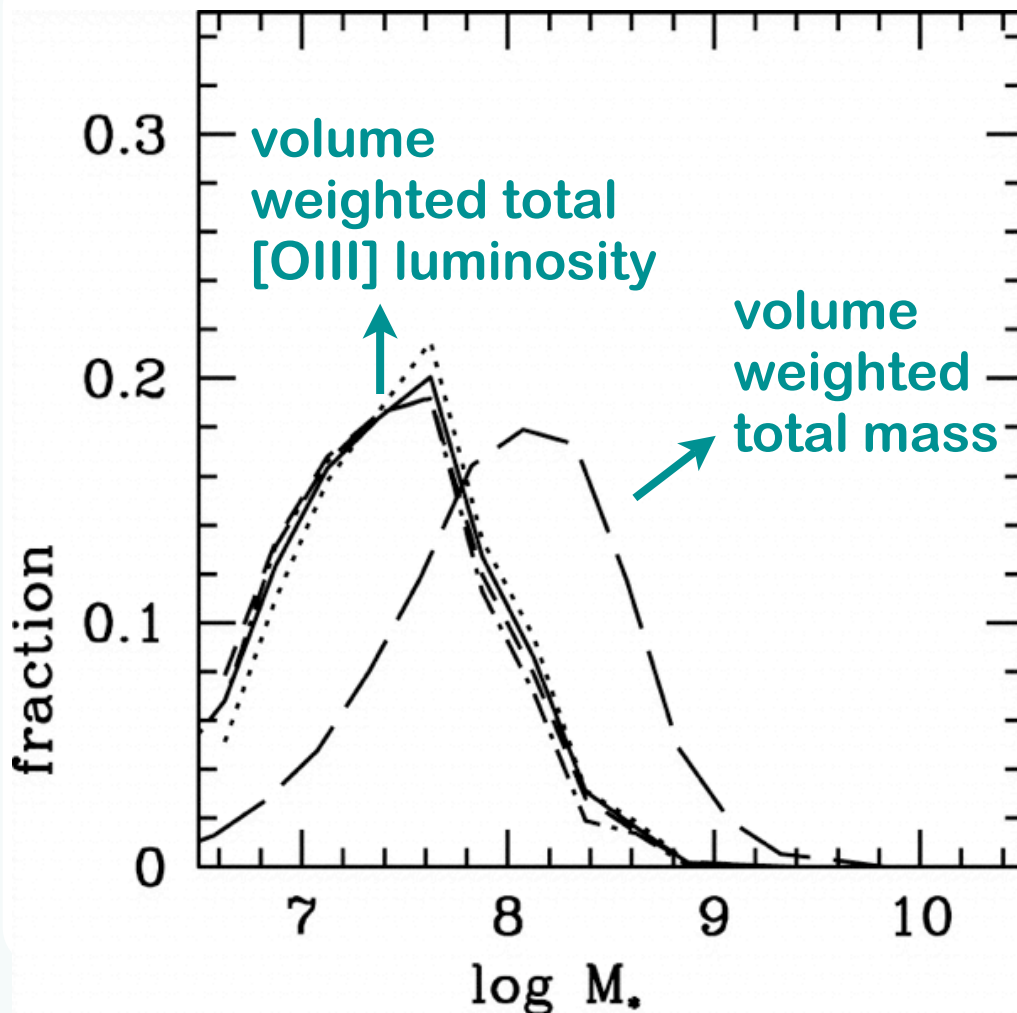
# Downsizing of AGN & stellar populations

How are these two behaviors related?



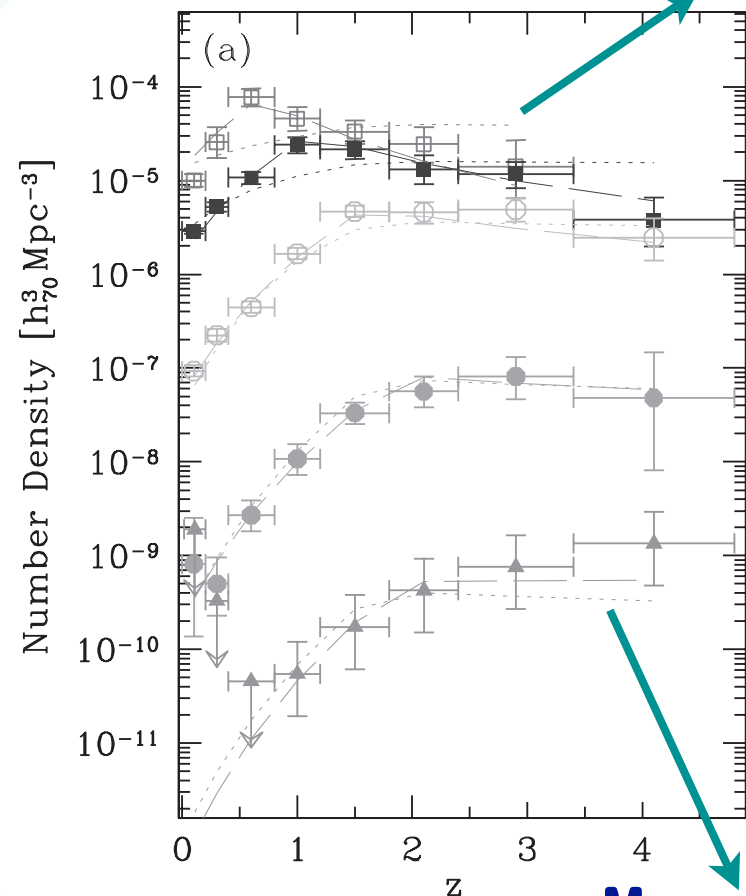
# Downsizing of AGN & stellar populations

Distribution over black hole mass for all type 2 AGN



The downsizing of AGNs may reflect the decrease of the mass of actively accreting black holes with redshift

# Downsizing of AGN & stellar populations

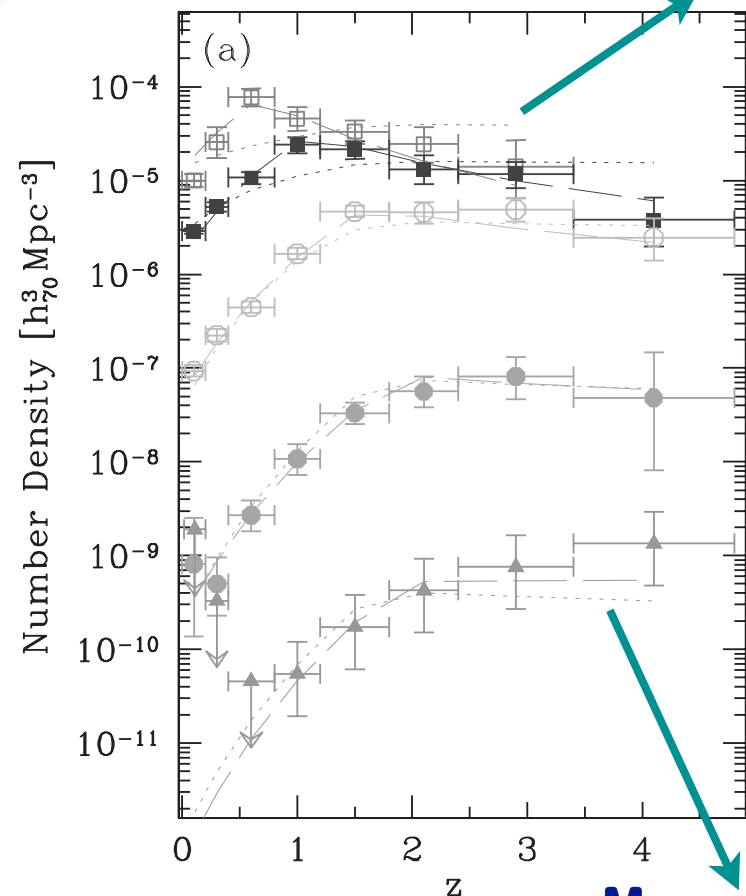


Less massive  
black holes

The downsizing of AGNs may reflect the decrease of the mass of actively accreting black holes with redshift

More massive  
black hole

# Downsizing of AGN & stellar populations



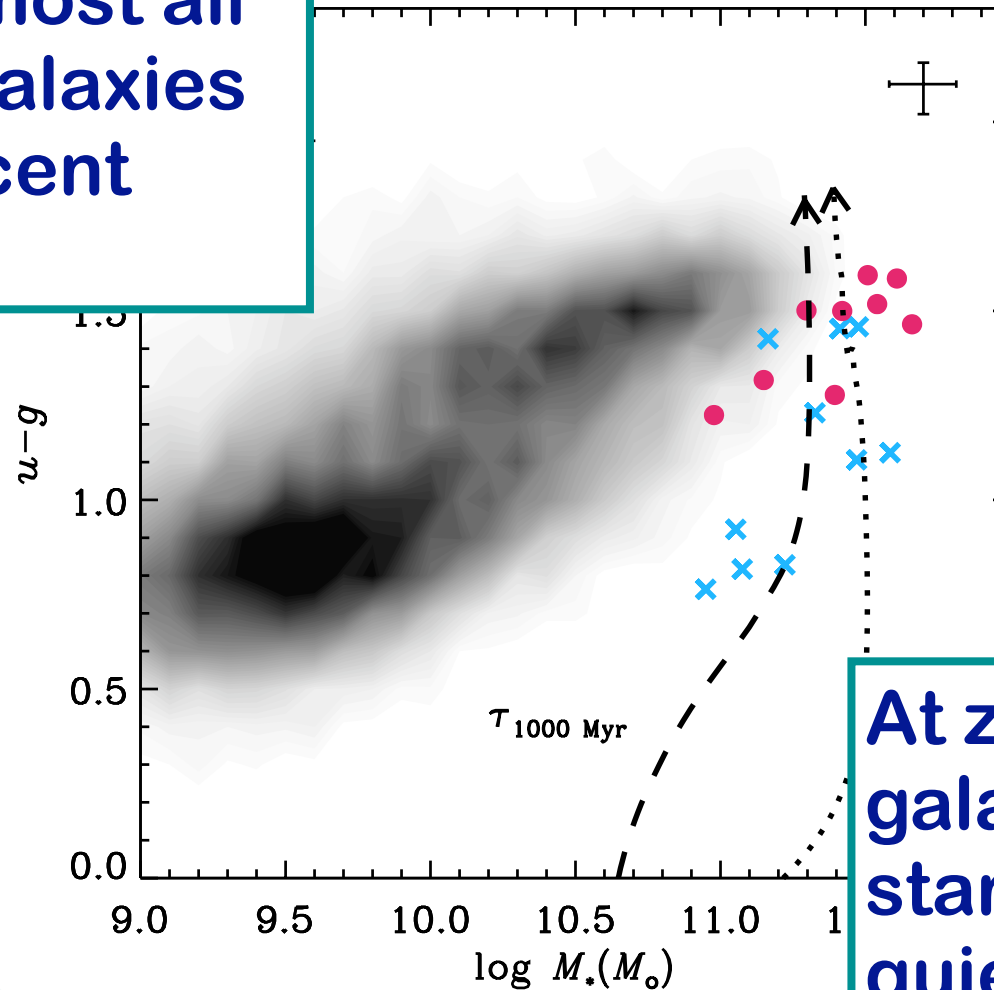
The downsizing of AGNs may reflect the decrease of the mass of actively accreting black holes with redshift

$$M_{\text{BH}} \sim M^*$$

Does this mass-scale traces the mass-scale at which galaxies are quenched?

# Massive galaxies at $z \sim 2.3$

At  $z \sim 0$  almost all massive galaxies are quiescent systems



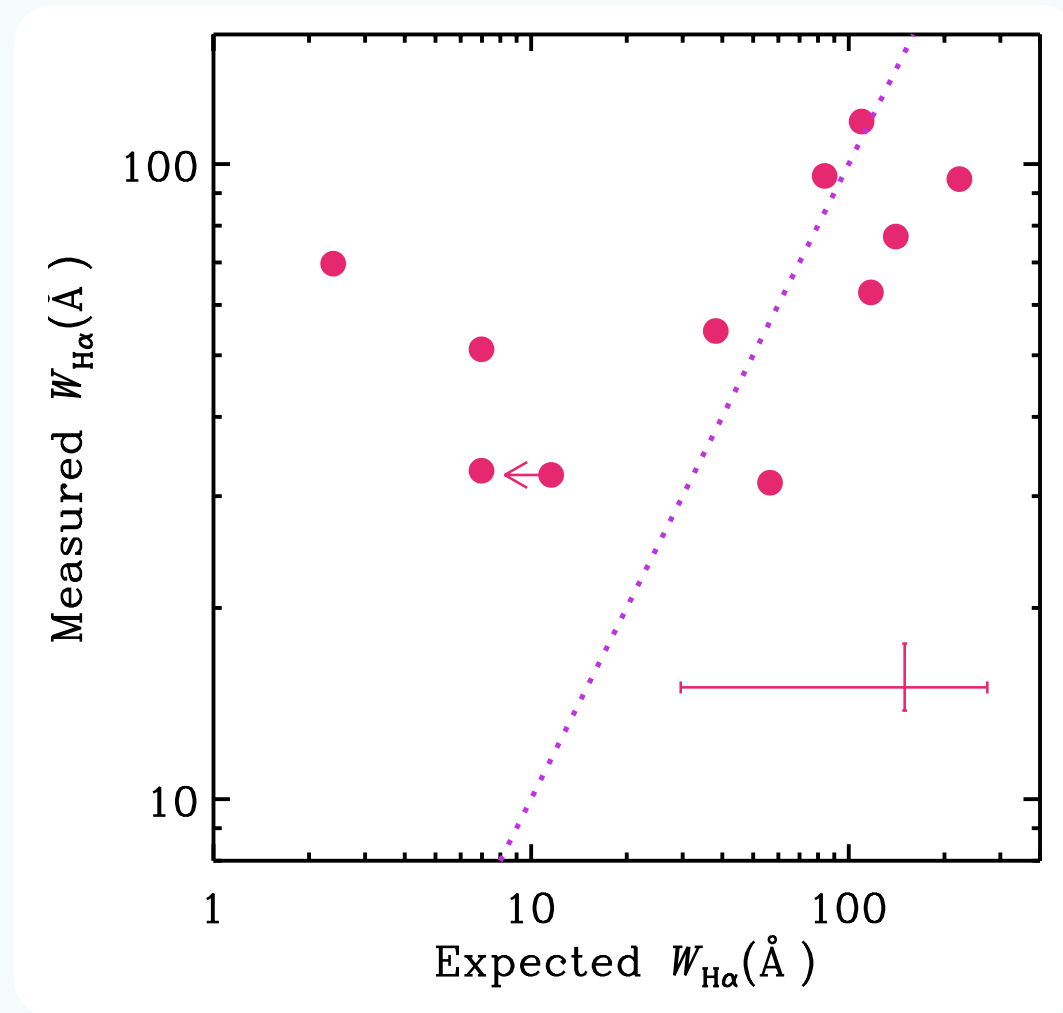
Galaxies without emission lines

Emission-line galaxies

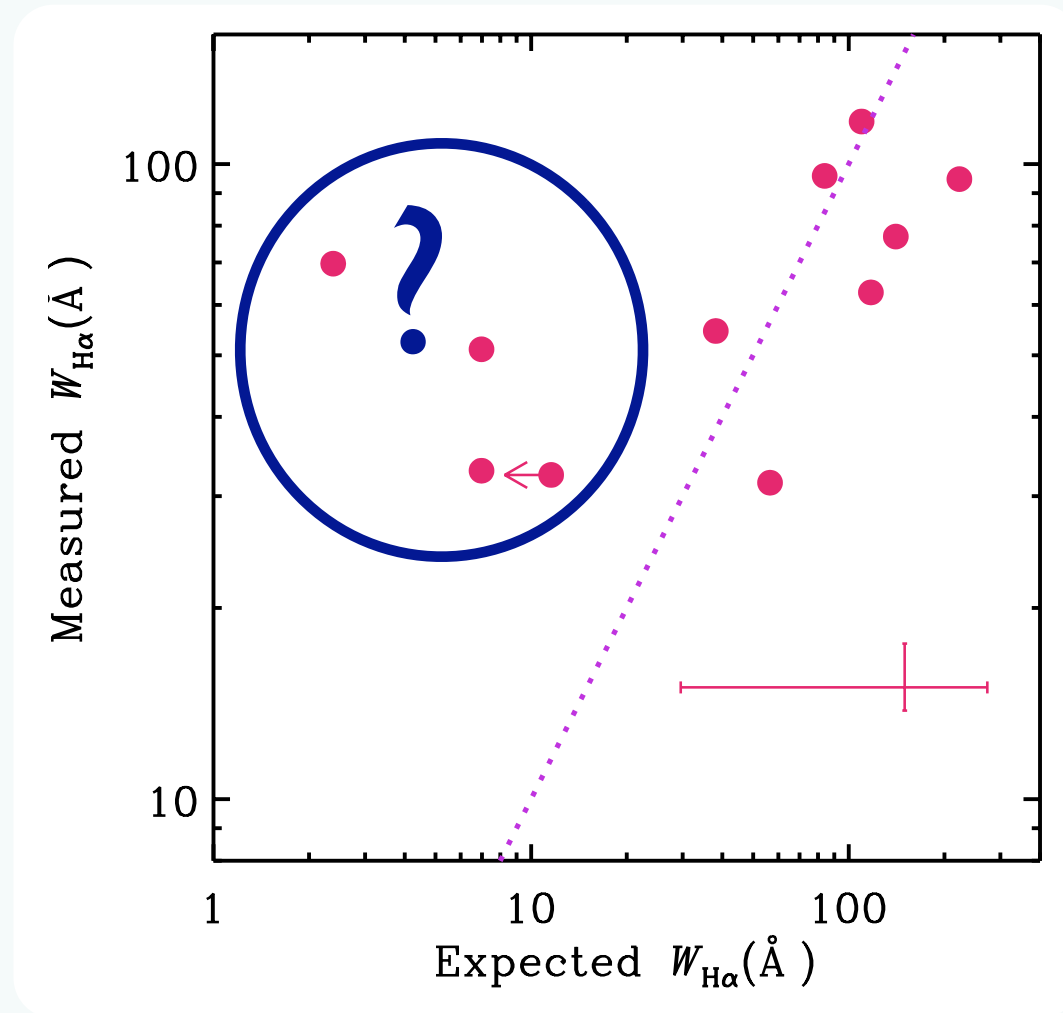
AGNs?

At  $z \sim 2.3$  massive galaxies are both star-forming and quiescent

# Emission-line galaxies at $z \sim 2.3$

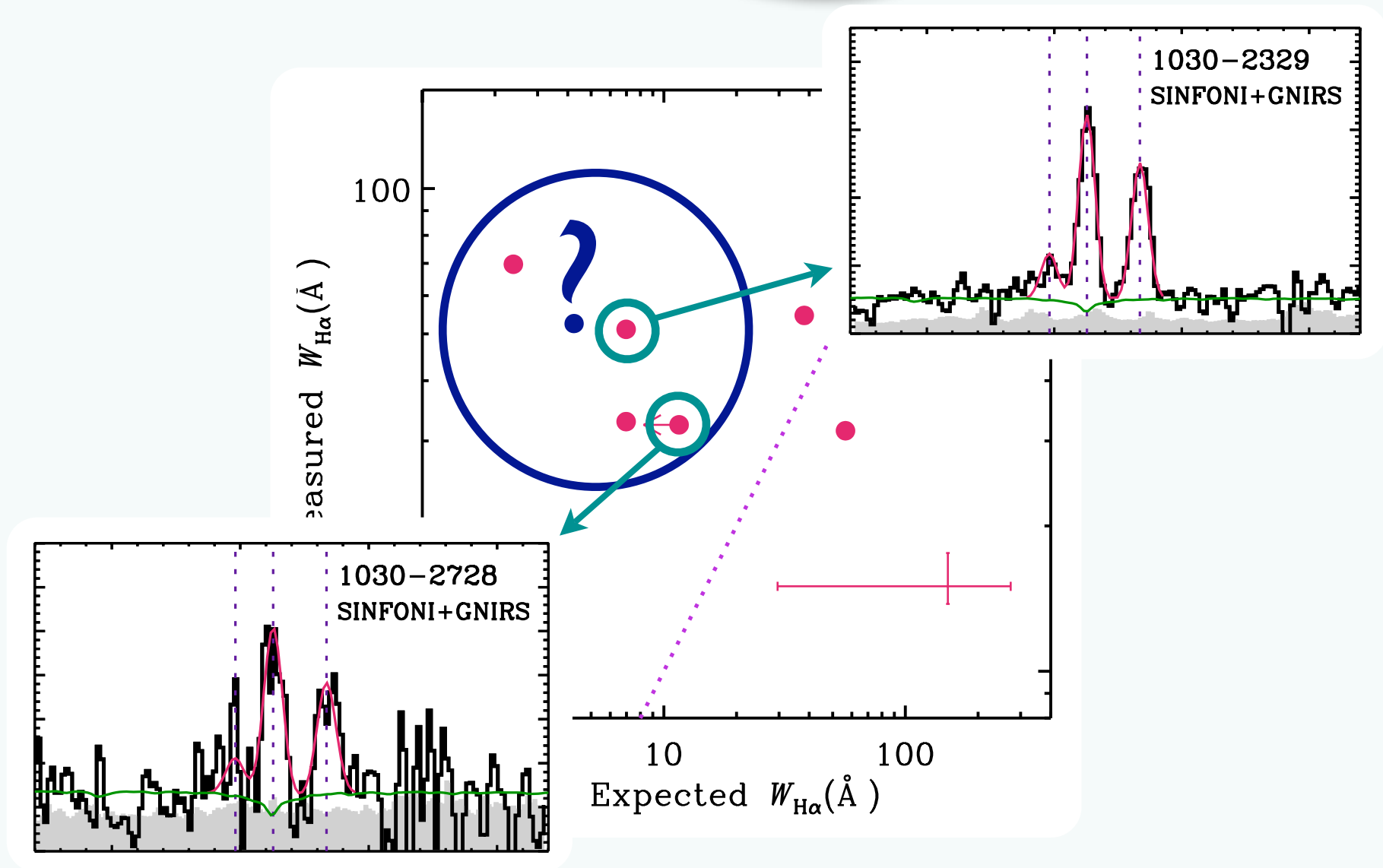


# Emission-line galaxies at $z \sim 2.3$

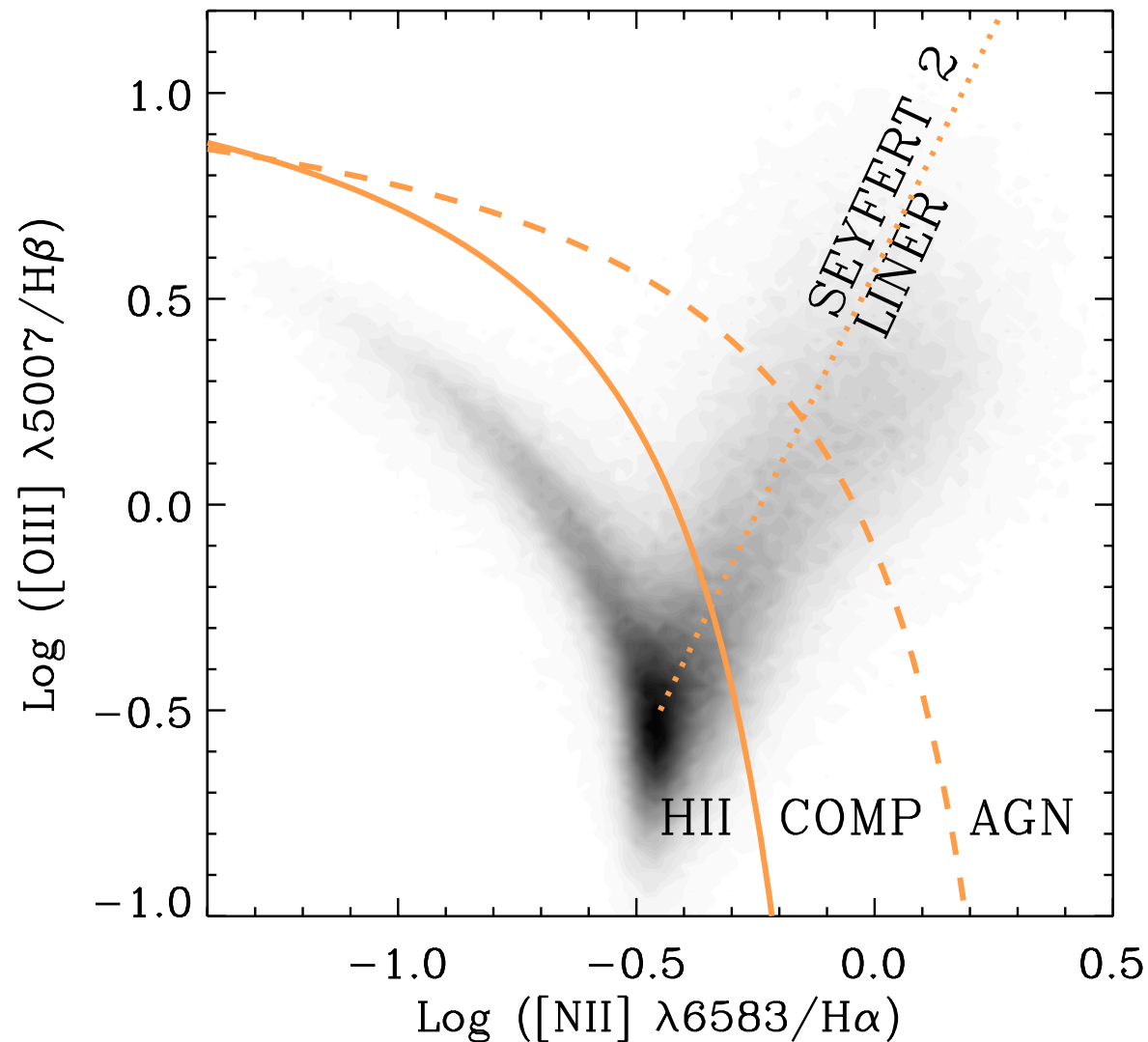




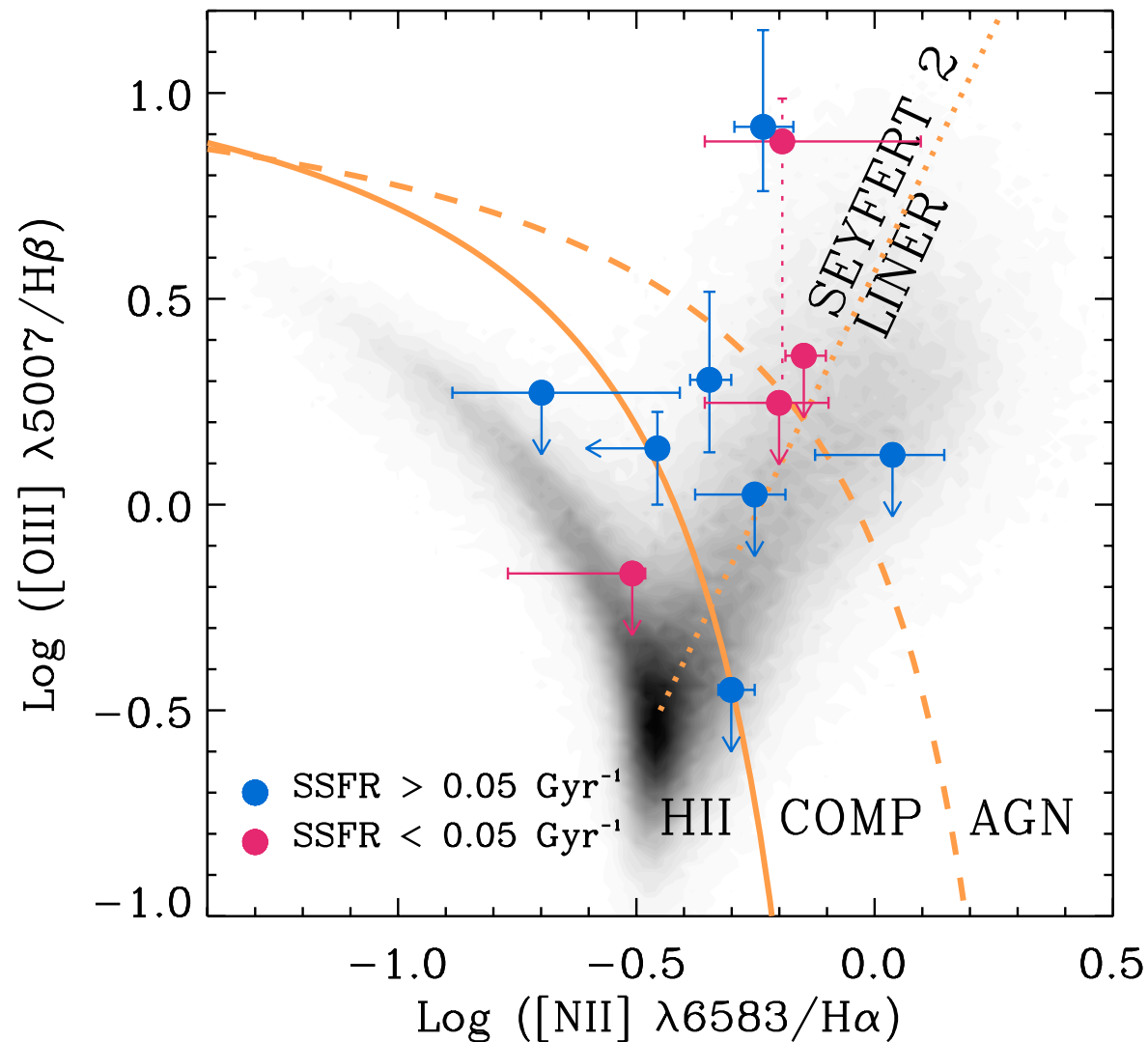
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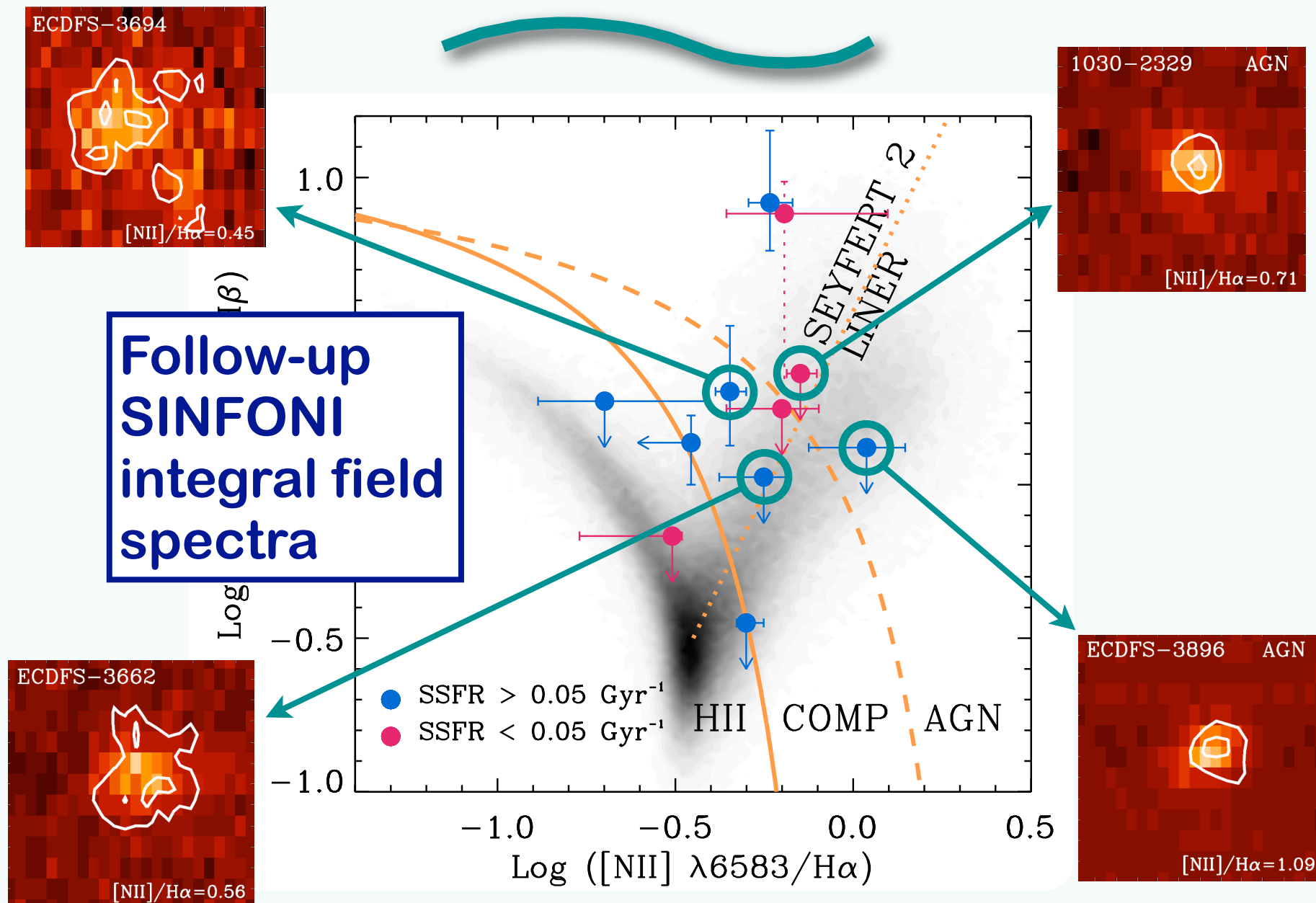
# Origin of the line emission



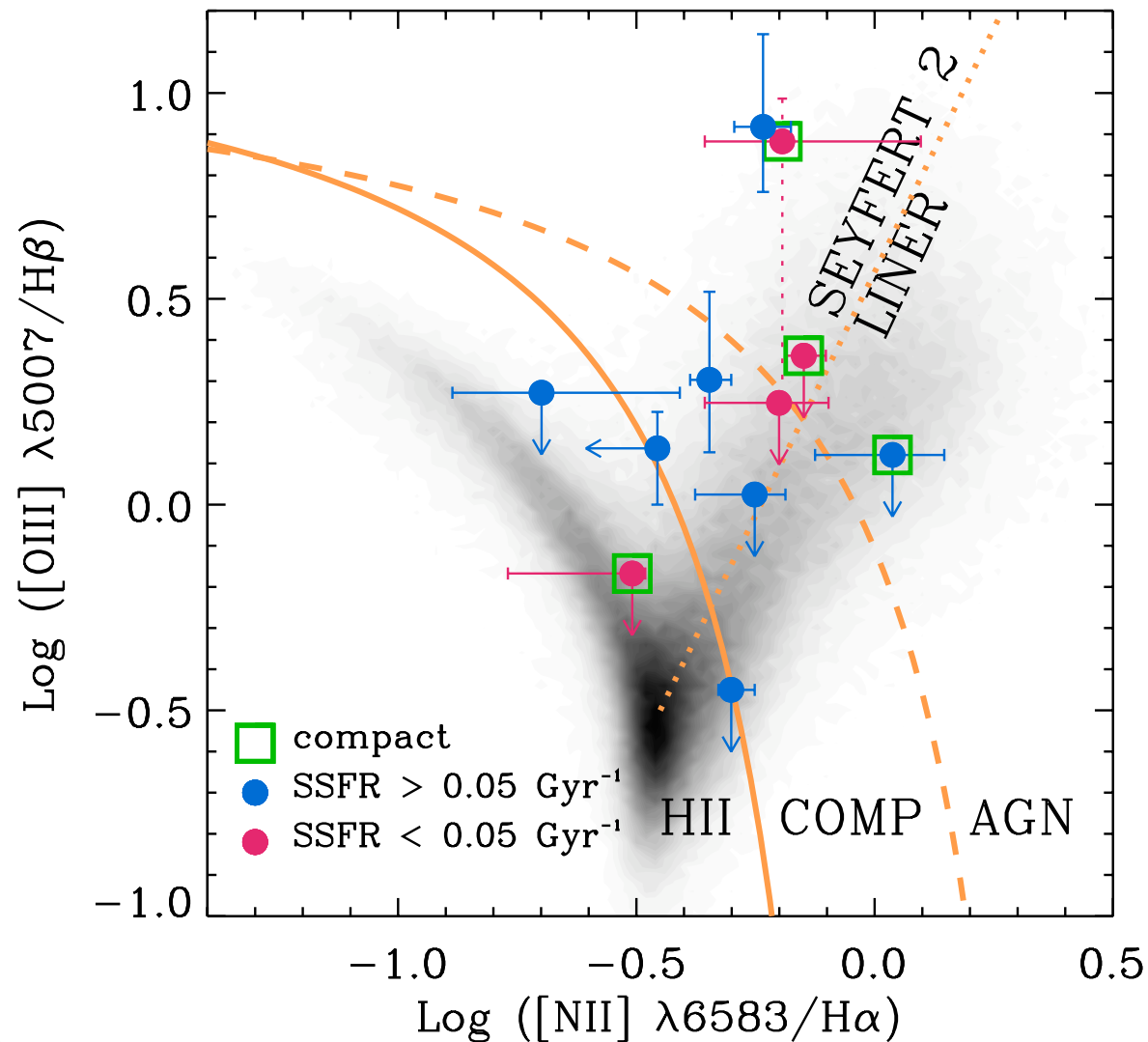
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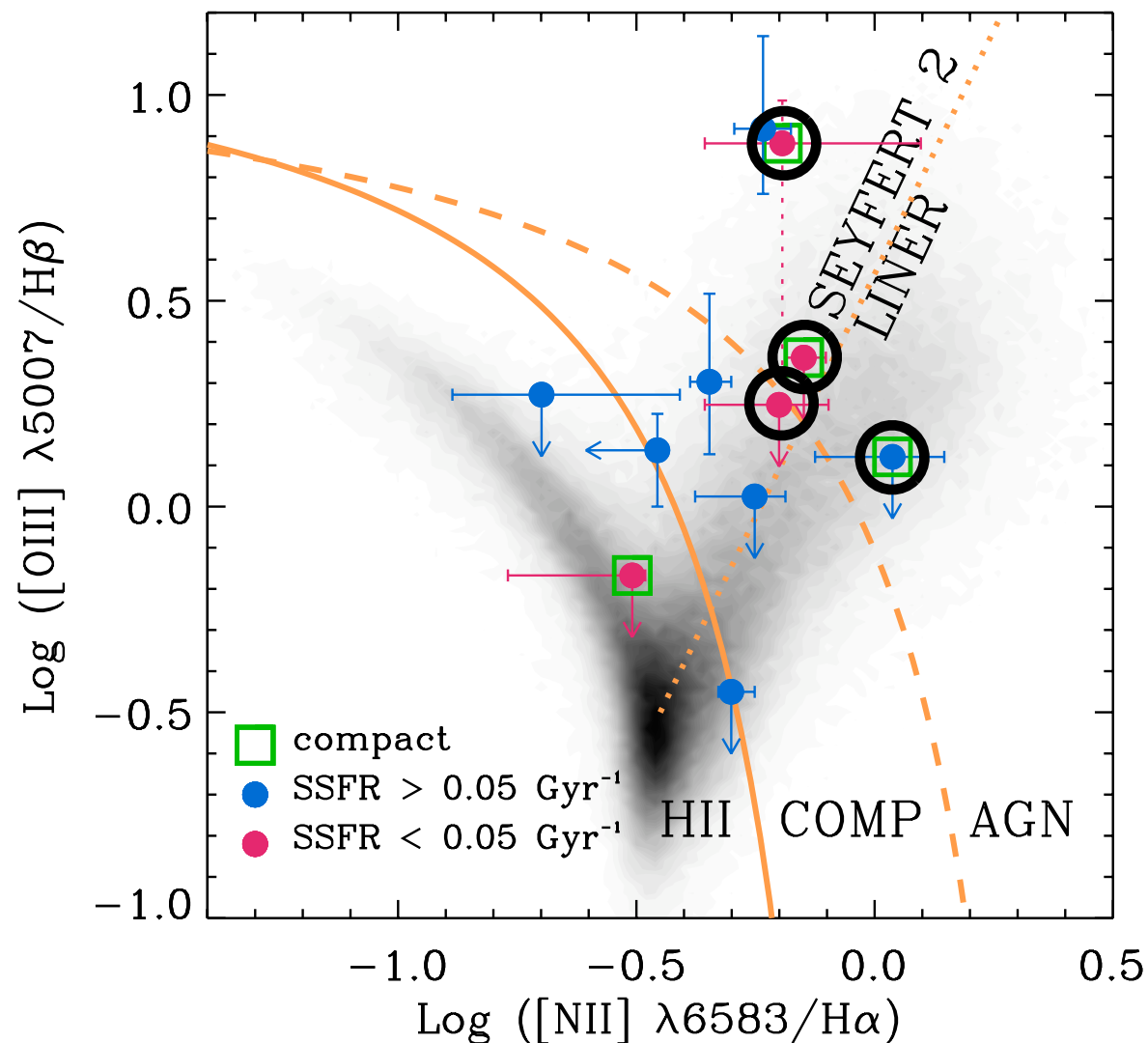
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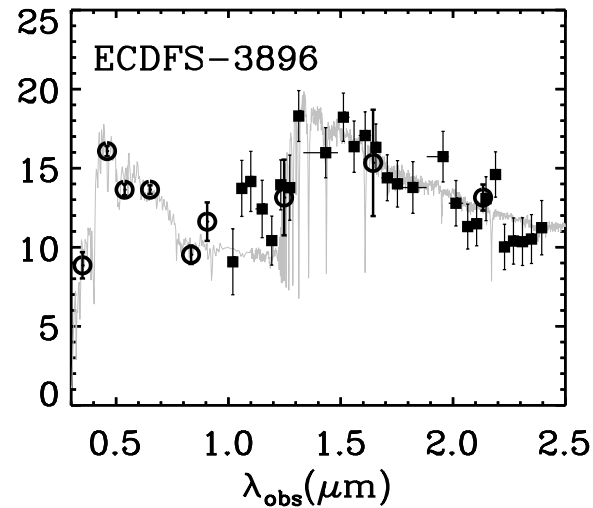
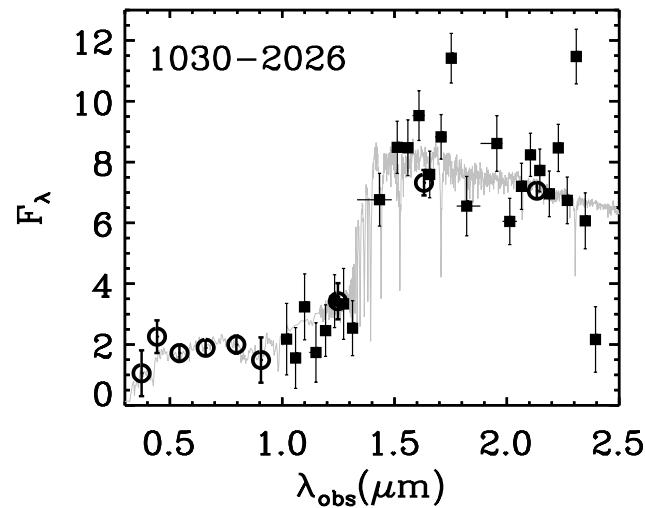
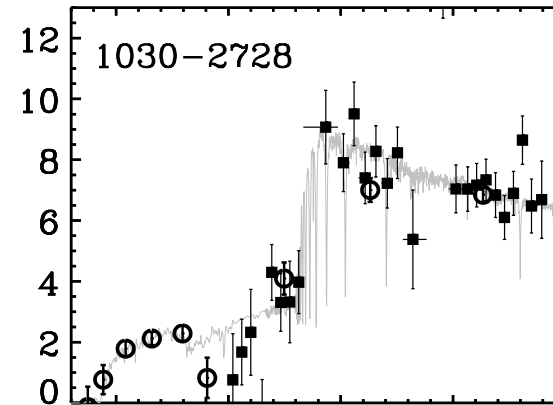
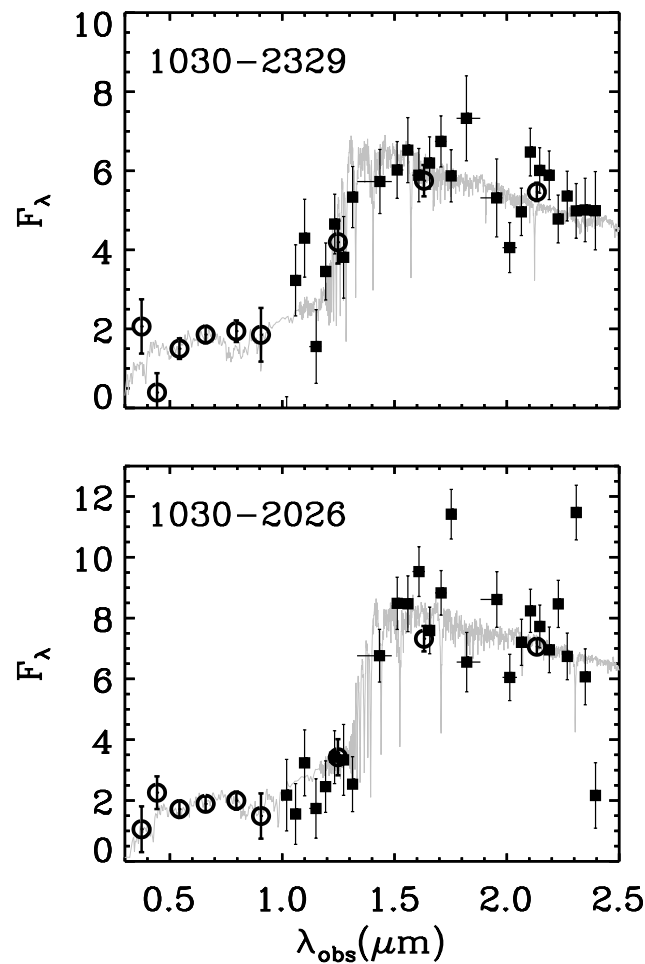


# Origin of the line emission

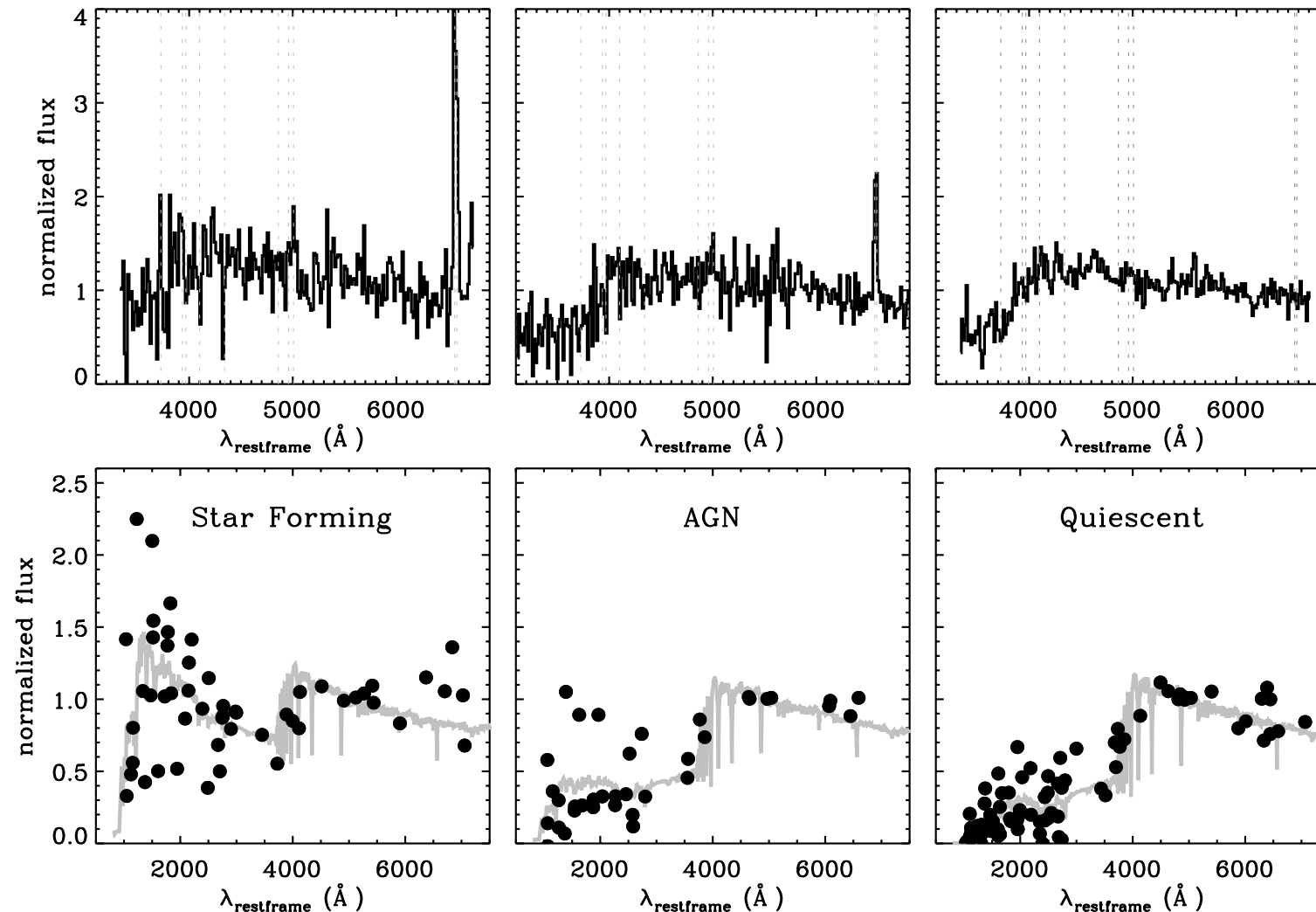


**AGN  
candidates**

# SEDs of AGN host galaxies

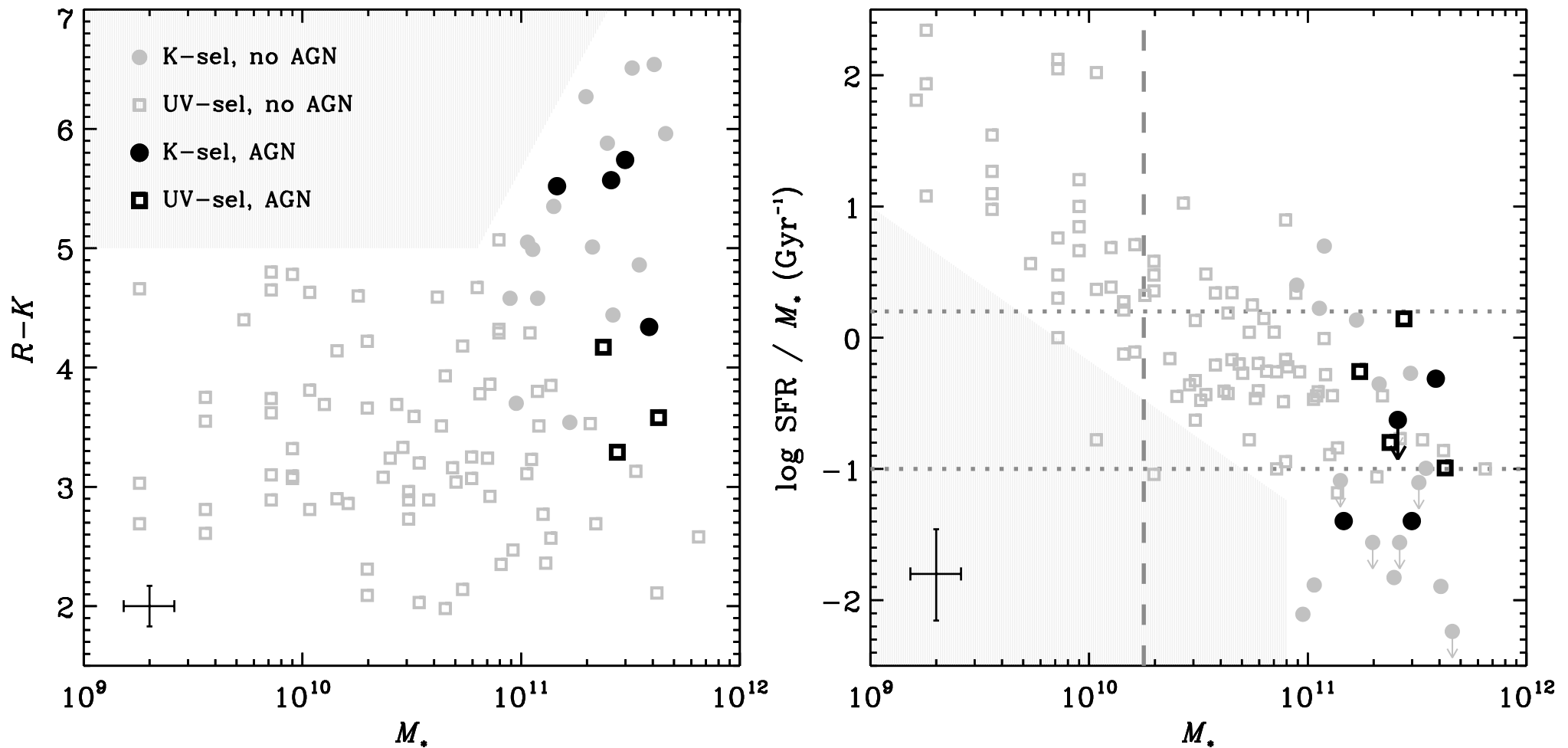


# Stacked spectra and composite SEDs

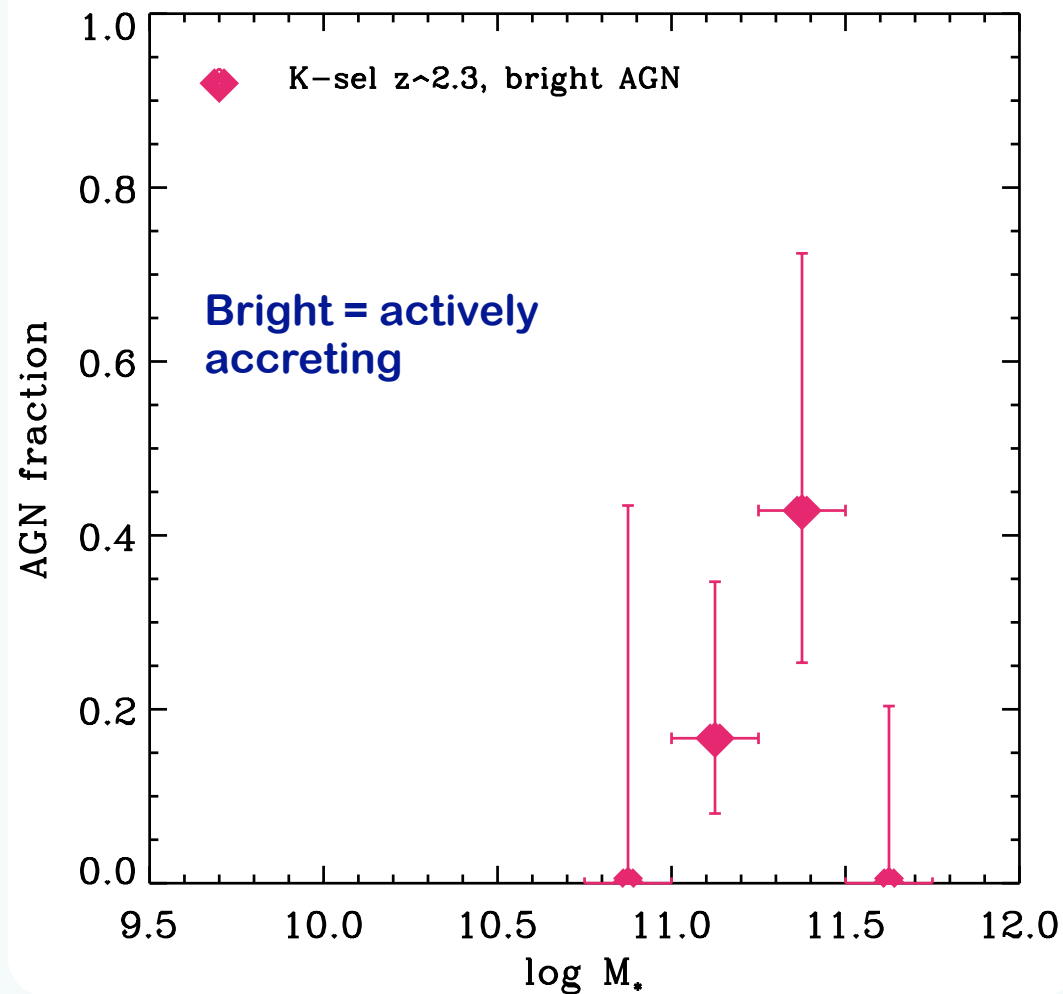




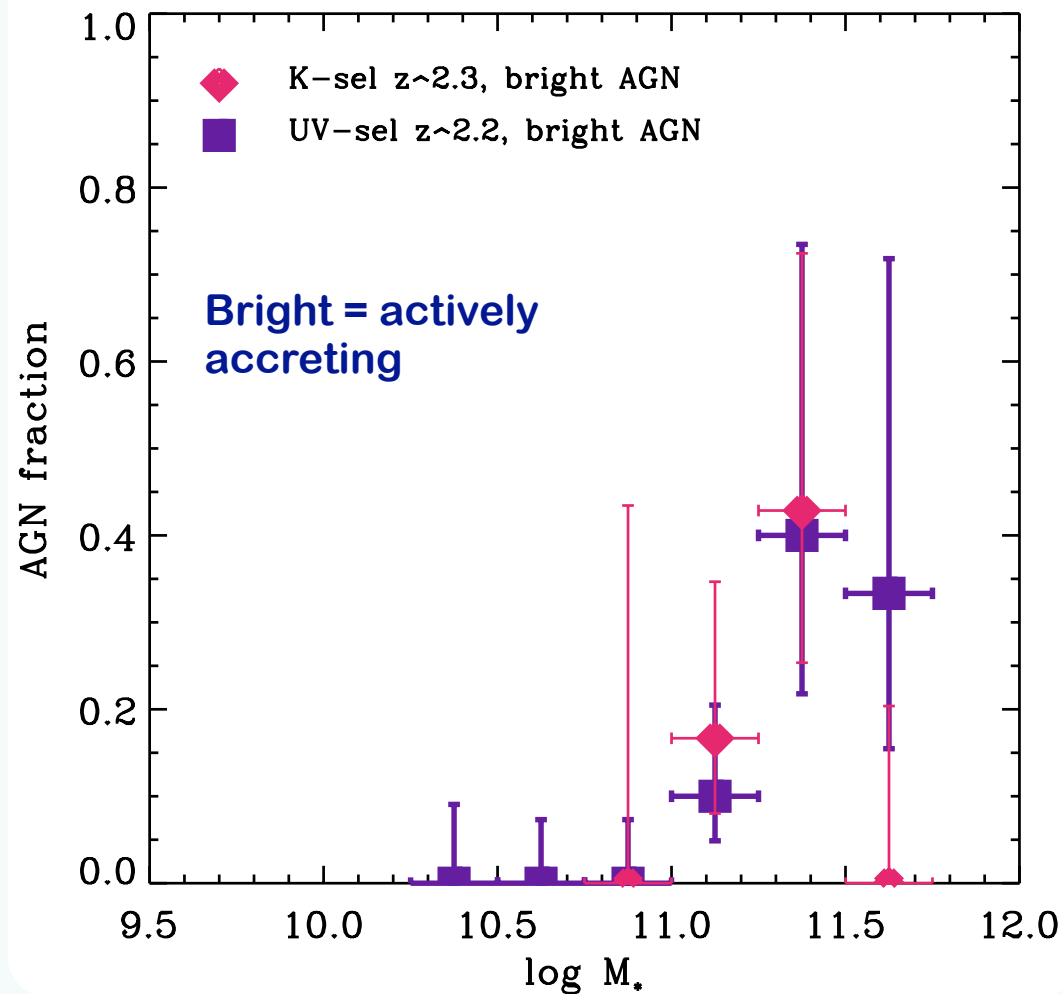
# Stellar masses of AGN hosts



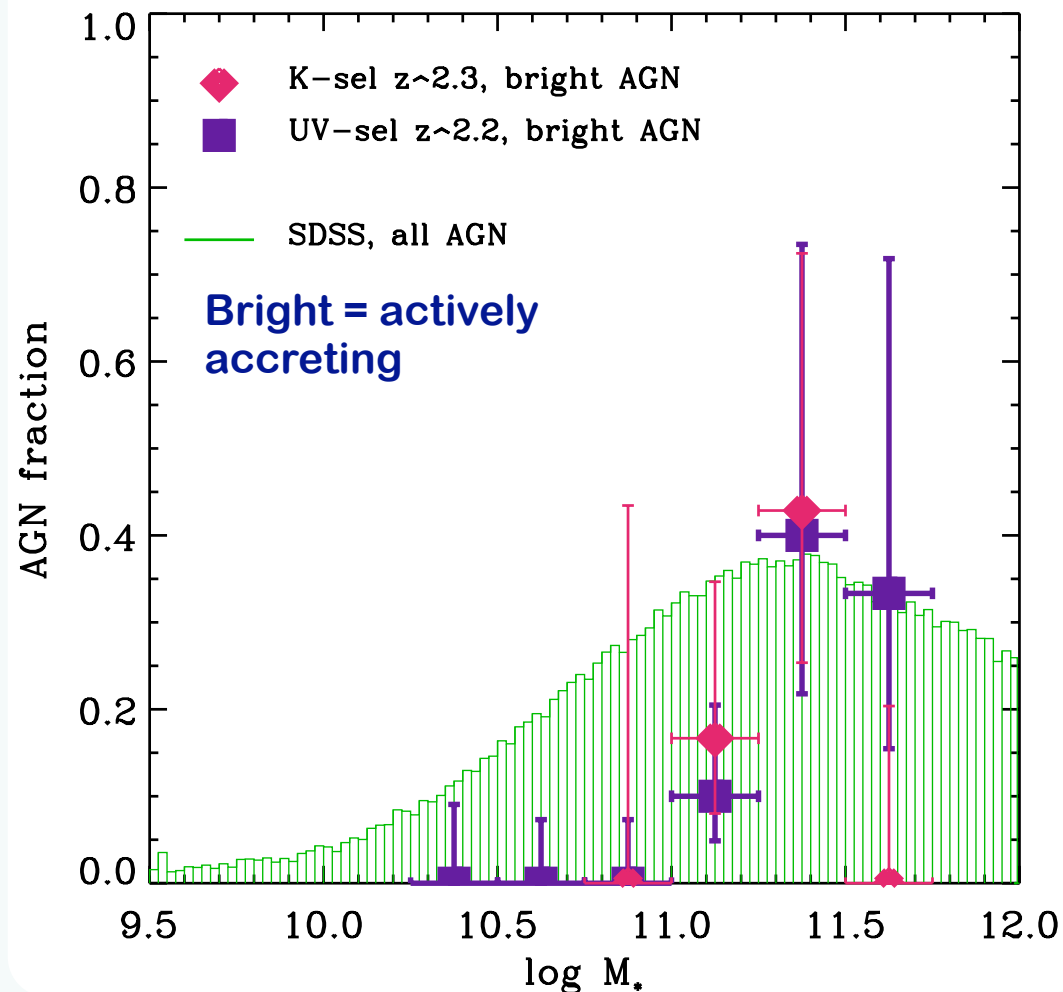
# Downsizing of AGN host galaxies



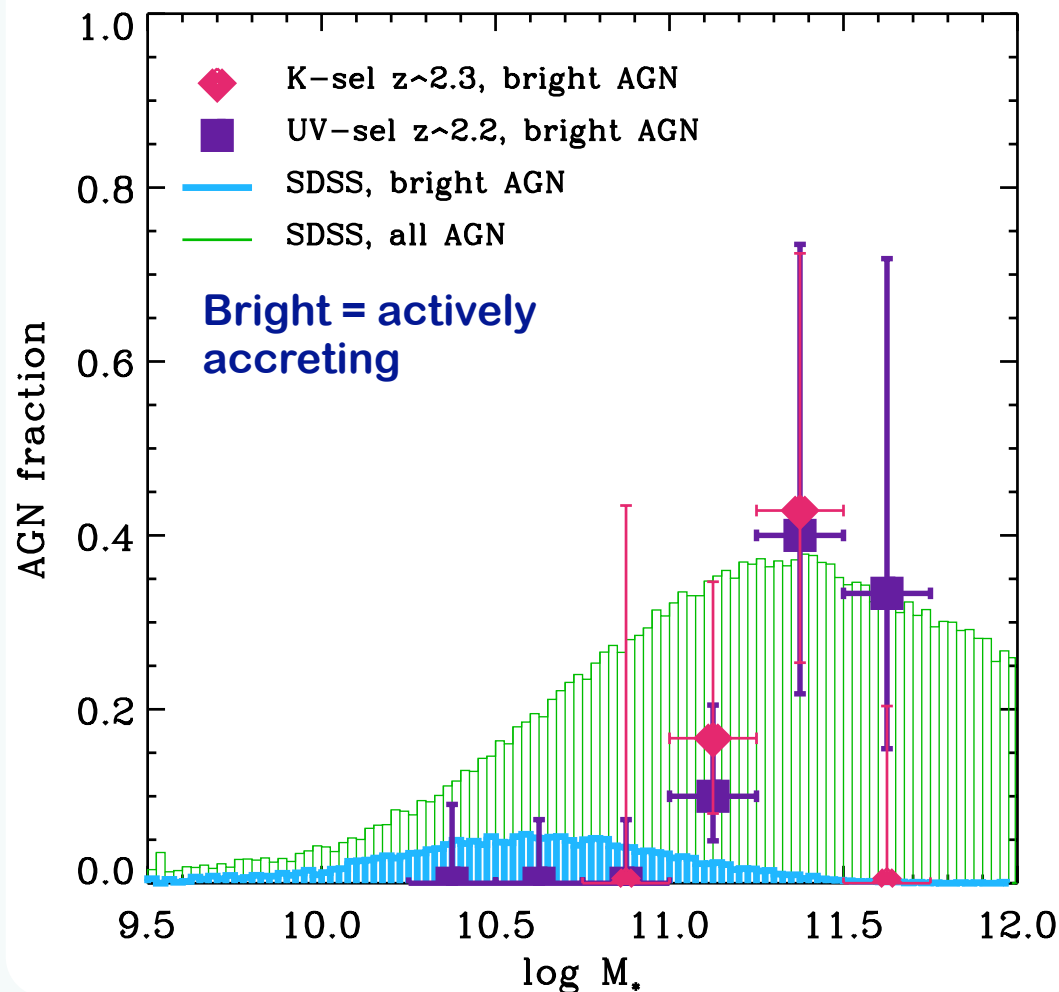
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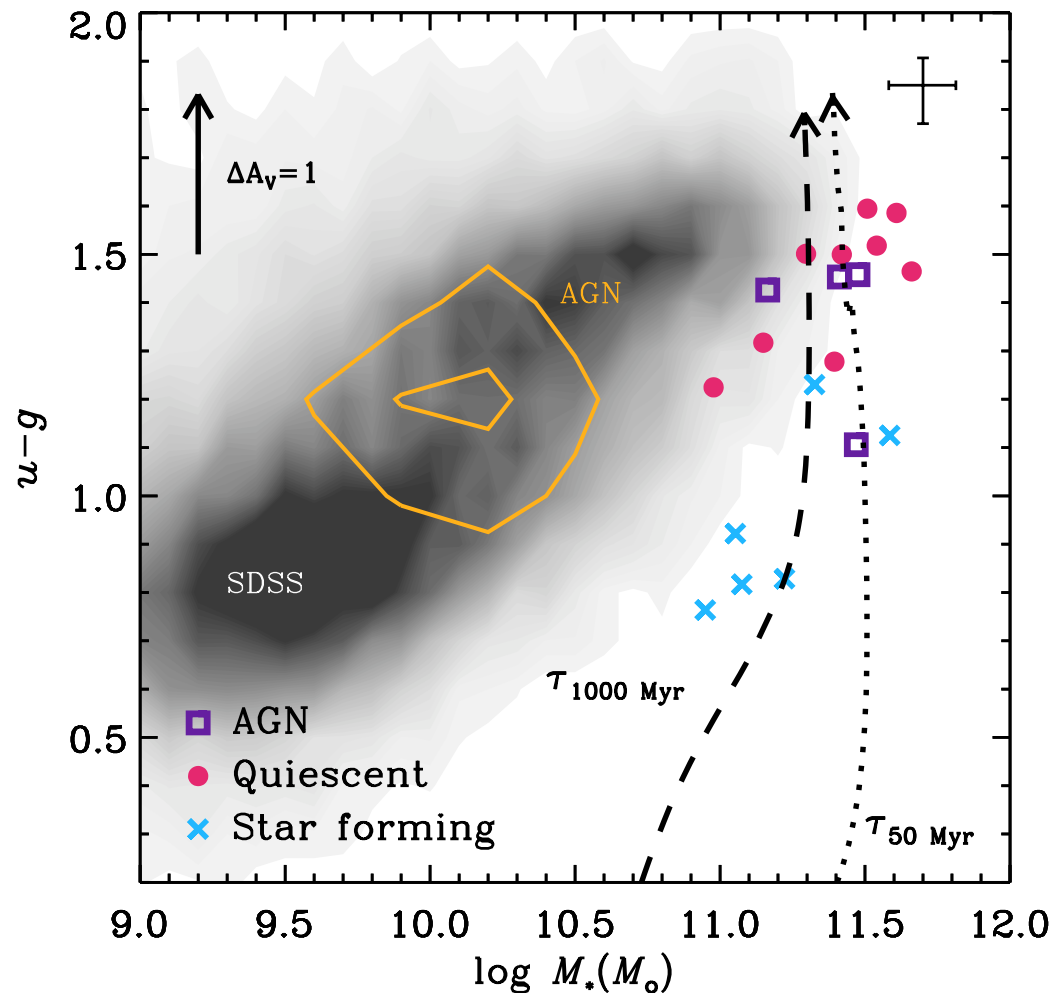


# Downsizing of AGN host galaxies



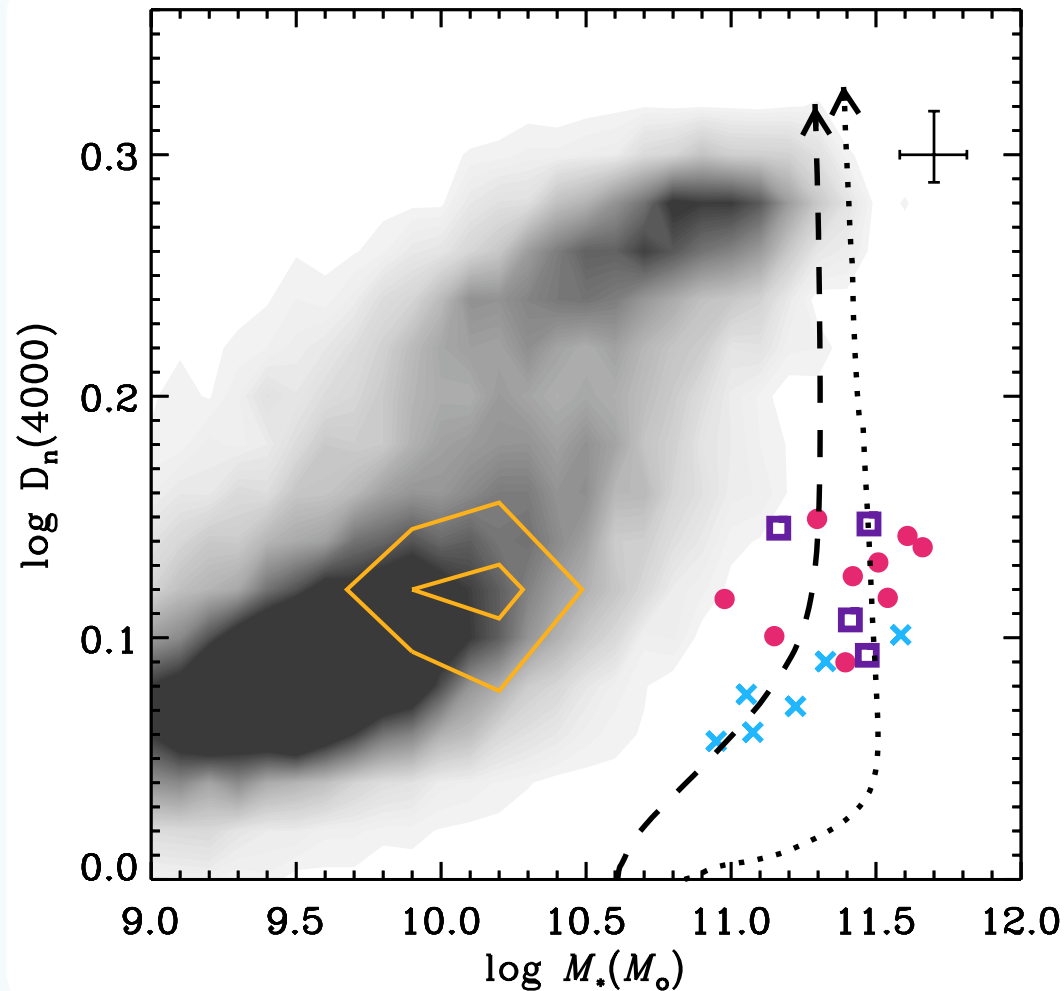
Comparing low and high redshift samples with the same normalized accretion rate ( $L_{\text{[NII]}} / M^*$ )

# Actively accreting AGNs



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# Motivation & Conclusions



- When was the star formation in massive galaxies suppressed?
  - ▶ In a substantial part of the massive galaxies at  $z \sim 2.3$  the star formation is already strongly suppressed
- What is the role of AGNs in the star formation history of galaxies?
  - ▶ AGN host galaxies exhibit cosmic downsizing: related to the decrease of the typical mass-scale at which the star formation in galaxies is quenched
  - ▶ Actively accreting AGNs may mainly reside in post-starburst or transitional galaxies